

LAST WEEK'S AVERAGE DAILY SALE 444,000

No 63,145

Lawson 'faces crisis' over trade figures

City analysts warn of £15bn annual deficit

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Britain's current account deficit was more than £1 billion again last month, and Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is facing a balance of payments crisis unless the economy slows down.

Mr Bill Martin, economist at brokers Phillips & Drew, said: "It doesn't need a teenage scribbler to work out that the deficit could be a lot worse than £10 billion. The danger is that things are still deteriorating, and we will see £15 billion.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, said that the figures were "a Tory-made disaster". He added: "Nigel Lawson only ever had luck and oil. And now the luck is running out even faster than the oil."

The figures mean that interest rates are likely to rise again later in the year, in order to cool the economy. But yesterday a strong performance for the pound postponed immediate base-rate action.

The pound fell after the trade figures were published at 11.30 am yesterday, dipping to just below \$1.70. But two hours later, after statistics were released in Washington showing that US economic growth was less strong than expected, sterling rebounded sharply, closing with a new gain of 1.5 cents at \$1.7285.

The pound also gained half a penny to DM3.1917, and the stock market, despite the poor trade figures, closed up, with the FT-SE 100 index 3.1 points higher at 1,840.8.

Exports rose by £277 million to £6.82 billion last month, while imports were up by £154 million to £8.34 billion. The trade deficit, of £1.52 billion, turned into a current account deficit of £1.02 billion after allowing for the estimated £500-million surplus on services and other invisible trade.

Mr Bryan Gould, Labour's Trade and Industry spokesman, described the figures as "appalling". He said: "Britain's permanent trade gap reveals that the Government's ability to expand demand by blowing up consumer credit is not matched by any corresponding improvement in the country's ability to supply goods."

Officials at the Department of Trade and Industry said that one encouraging feature was that exports of manufactures were at a record £5.08 billion level in June, but they conceded that manufactured imports were also at a record level.

Treasury officials said that the Chancellor stood by the views on the balance of payments that he expressed in his speech to the Institute of Economic Affairs last week, in which he said that a country running a current account deficit was analogous to "a profitable company raising funds overseas".

The officials said that the deficit reflected strong imports of capital goods for investment - the volume of such imports rose by 5.5 per cent in the second quarter compared with the first. The deficit also reflected flows of funds into Britain.

But the Treasury also said that it was not certain whether the action taken to cool the economy - with base rates raised six times since early June - would bring about a narrowing of the deficit in the second half of the year.

Classic line in payphones



Lord Young, Secretary of State, making an inaugural call from one of Mercury's 26 new payphone boxes - in the Corinthian style - at London's Waterloo Station yesterday.

MPs press for drive by MoD to check fraud

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Radical steps to cut the scope for fraud, corruption and impropriety were demanded of the Ministry of Defence yesterday by two leading committees of MPs.

The influential Public Accounts Committee proposed measures to eliminate fraud and overcharging by defence contractors. These included discretionary compensation for "whistleblowers", a confidential hotline for informants, tougher penalties and stronger policing.

In a separate report, the powerful Select Committee on Defence insisted that the Ministry of Defence publish details of the growing numbers of senior employees who leave to join private sector defence contractors after handling multi-million pound deals.

The committee, which has been for months to get this information, said the public had to be assured that no corruption or impropriety was involved.

It rejected out of hand the ministry's reasons for keeping the information confidential and threatened the unusual step of using its powers to order the ministry to hand it over if it did not back down.

It is the Public Accounts Committee call for discretionary compensation for "whistleblowers" that is likely to cause the greatest reverberations.

According to Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, a Labour member of the committee, the lives of at least four such men have been "wrecked" by their actions which have saved the taxpayer hundreds of thousands of pounds.

In 1979 Mr James Smith gave the Ministry of Defence information that helped it to secure a £421,000 refund from Aish and Co. In 1982 Mr Donald Finnan gave the ministry information that contributed to Thorn-EMI having to refund more than £360,000. In 1985 disclosures

by Mr Burgess Cooper led Dowry Rotol to refund £470,000. More recently, Mr Kingsley Thrower, a former employee, is understood to have triggered the present investigations into GEC-Marconi and, among other things, the alleged awarding of sub-contracts for the Sangray torpedo project to the families of Marconi employees.

The ministry has not paid compensation or rewards to such people, although other departments such as Inland Revenue have done so.

"We do accept there can be a case for compensation in specific cases. We recommend that the MoD should consider leading article... 13

their present principles and practice and see that these are at least in line with what other departments do", the committee says.

The ministry's Serious Crime Squad was only 28 strong. This suggested "the MoD's investigative capacity may not be adequate to cope with suspected irregularities in such a large field", the committee said.

The defence committee's report comes in the wake of the ministry's refusal to accept its earlier call for openness about senior officers and Civil Servants who leave to join private-sector defence contractors.

The Government can block appointment for up to two years after an employee leaves the Civil Service, but the committee noted that in 20 out of 46 recent cases of individuals applying to join companies with which they had had a contractual link no restrictions had been imposed.

Only this month General Sir James Glover, Commander in Chief of UK Land forces until 1987, was appointed director of Delta Data Systems, and Who's Who

US plotted kidnap of drugs gang leader

By Tony Dawe and David Sapsted, London, and Michael Binyon, Miami.

American drugs agents were so anxious to force Howard Marks, the British suspected of running the world's biggest cannabis racket, to face trial in the US that they devised a plan to kidnap him in Europe, The Times learnt yesterday.

He had stopped visiting America and they feared that arresting him in one of his European haunts might prove counter-productive. They suspected difficulties in trying to extradite him from other European countries.

The US drugs agents discussed their plan with members of Scotland Yard's Serious Crimes Squad and the Customs investigation department, their closest allies in the international investigation into the Marks syndicate.

"Frankly, we were astonished," one detective told The Times yesterday. "But the racket was so big that the idea was put to top figures in Scotland Yard and the Customs."

Book banned... 3

tom investigation department. They decided that the British authorities could not condone the kidnapping of one of its citizens."

The Americans subsequently abandoned the plan and decided the best alternative was to arrest Mr Marks

in Spain, where he was seized on Monday at his villa in Majorca.

A spokesman for the DEA, who declined yesterday to comment on the kidnap plan, confirmed that 14 of 22 people named in the US Department of Justice indictment had still to be arrested. One of them was said to be in London while others were being sought in America, Spain, The Netherlands, Thailand and Pakistan.

A London solicitor named by the Americans as Mr James Newton, aged 56 - was being questioned in London about an alleged false passport ring.

Two of those held were released - two of them bailed pending further inquiries - while a fourth, Mr Balendo Lo, a Hong Kong Chinese who ran a Piccadilly travel agency, appeared before Bow Street magistrates on Tuesday on a US extradition warrant.

Mr Lo, alleged to have helped launder the proceeds from the racket through his travel agency and other outlets, was remanded in custody until August 2.

The reason for the acquiescence to see (some) cross-holding expanding in most British in their own small to have

WIN £130,000 Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator With two people sharing the daily prize yesterday (see page 3) the Portfolio Accumulator stands at £130,000. Prices: page 25

Rolls in air lease scheme

Rolls-Royce, the aero-engine maker, is forming a joint venture company with GPA Group, the aircraft-leasing specialists based in the Irish Republic, to build up a leasing fleet of Rolls-Royce powered Boeing 757 jetliners.

The aim is to build up a "significant" leasing fleet, probably of more than 50 aircraft, the two companies said. The value of engine orders to Rolls-Royce for each aircraft over its life, including spares, would be about £11 million.

The joint venture has already opened discussions with Boeing on supplies of aircraft

IN PART 2 Team spirit Companies and executives will prosper if they realize managers are only as good as the teams they lead, says an introduction to seven pages of appointments... Pages 30-36

Degree results Degrees from the University of Wales, Lampeter, will be published tomorrow. Swansea degrees and Institute of Chartered Accountants results appear today... Pages 29, 37, 38

TIMES FOCUS Good transport links have made Reading a leading centre in Britain for the new high-tech industries, says a Special Report... Pages 28, 29

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Life ban for athlete

Mr Jeff Guttridge, the British pole vaulter and 1982 Commonwealth Games silver medalist, is to appeal after being given a life ban yesterday for failing a drug test.

Mr Guttridge, tested at a training camp in the Canary Isles in April, had traces in his urine of an anabolic steroid. The positive testing comes as Mr Peter Conti, QC, is completing his inquiry into drug-test allegations which were the subject of a series in The Times last December. Report, page 42

Parkinson rejects power sale attack

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Government is preparing to defuse severe criticism of its plans to privatize the electricity industry - much of it from Conservative MPs - by mounting a campaign claiming that privatized power will mean cheaper electricity.

The Conservative-dominated Commons Energy Select Committee yesterday attacked privatization plans put forward by Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Energy Secretary, as ill-conceived and demanded that they should be withdrawn before being submitted to Parliament in autumn. It backed his aims, but said he was preparing to go about privatization in the wrong way.

Mr Parkinson is determined to go ahead with his plan to announce legislation to privatize the electricity industry in November, despite the criticism. It is understood that he hopes his legislation will be bolstered by announcements from several sectors of the industry that privatization will give them scope for making real price cuts.

The committee said they would have preferred the Department of Energy to have produced a Green Paper for discussion before coming forward with its White Paper. "There is still time for a fuller consultation, even if the result is to defer the legislation. Nothing is served by the secrecy and haste in which the process of consultation has been conducted."

The committee says the long-term problems of the nuclear power industry have been "glossed over" and that the Government has an "emotional hostility" towards coal. The Labour shadow energy spokesman, Mr John Prescott, said that the Parkinson proposals were "an ideological leap in the dark."

Clarke expected to keep free eye tests

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

Conservative MPs believe Mr Kenneth Clarke will have to abandon proposals to scrap free eye tests and dental examinations this autumn.

The new Secretary of State for Health is on record twice as supporting free tests for everyone under the National Health Service. The growing group of Conservative MPs and peers who are fighting the proposed charges are now confident they will win their campaign.

A Conservative-led revolt in the Lords led to the defeat of Mr John Moore's proposal to charge £10 for each eye test and £3 for a dental check because peers feared that serious conditions will go undetected, but Mr Moore, the former Secretary of State for Social Services, was expected to reverse that defeat in the Commons at the end of October.

However, Mr Clarke is on record, from his time as Minister for Health, as twice pledging to retain free tests. On December 20 1983 he told MPs: "We are keeping in the NHS what should be kept in the NHS - free sight tests for everyone regardless of need" and, again in 1984, he told the Commons: "The NHS will continue to provide sight tests for everyone regardless of age or means."

One of his first big tasks in his new job will be to persuade the Treasury to provide an extra £155 million a year, which the Government hoped to raise through the charges, or to streamline the £600 million overhaul of primary health care, but it is unlikely that he will make an early announcement on the charges.

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Shake up at TV-am after new IBA criticism

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Mr Bruce Gynge, managing director of trouble-hit TV-am, last night unveiled plans to revamp his station's programming after the latest criticism from the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

Expanded news coverage at weekends, a department to oversee children's programmes, and an extended Sunday slot fronted by David Frost - which will be the station's flagship programme - will be backed up by the recruitment of extra journalists.

Details of the plan came only 24 hours after the IBA criticized the service produced by journalists and management at TV-am during the prolonged industrial dispute involving technicians at the breakfast time

station. After the dismissal of 229 technicians, secretaries and executives became stop-gap cameramen and sound recordists. The IBA said the resulting service had "fallen below the overall standards" the authority would normally seek. "We have told TV-am that we require standards on screen to show further improvements over the coming months. We shall continue to monitor TV-am's output closely."

It is the second year running that the IBA has criticised TV-am. Last year the authority singled out weekend news and sports coverage, and children's programming for being below standard.

The company started working on revamping its output last September, but within weeks it was hit by the

dispute. Mr Gynge, who returned to work at the Camden Lock studios in May after suffering a heart attack, told The Times last night he entirely accepted the IBA's criticisms, although he said there had been considerable improvement since April - the last month covered by the report.

"The criticism was justified because we were using all acquired programming with a few rip-and-read headlines. We had slipped back from the standards we were achieving before the dispute. And that was entirely due to the dispute."

Although TV-am has recruited only 40 non-union staff to replace the sacked strikers, he insisted the service was improving. "I believe we have better news than at any time in our history. Our news

bulletins stand favourable comparison with any news bulletins being done in this country or the US."

Mr Gynge plans to introduce news bulletins on the hour between 6 am and 9 am on Saturdays and Sundays, as well as weekdays.

From the end of September, the David Frost programme will be extended to 90 minutes, backed up by extra production and research staff. A children's advisory committee is to oversee children's programming. Less acquired or bought-in material will be screened - particularly from the US - and Open College programming will return to the screen. All the changes will have been carried out before TV-am applies to the IBA next summer for its franchise to be extended to the end of 1992.

NEWS ROUNDUP

US warship faces stowaway probe

An Irish girl aged 15 was waiting to be reunited with her parents yesterday after crossing the Atlantic as a stowaway on an American warship.

The girl, who lives on a council estate in Cork, hid for 10 days in a 30-inch cable duct on the guided missile destroyer the USS Conyngham, fed by members of the crew.

Eight sailors are thought to have been involved in smuggling the girl aboard during a courtesy call to Cobh, near Cork, earlier this month.

Five sailors were in US naval custody yesterday and three others are to be questioned. All face possible sentences of five years and fines of 2,000 dollars for assisting an illegal immigrant to enter the US.

The girl at the centre of incident - said to have embarrassed US military authorities because of the security implications - was little the worse for her 10 days at sea. She is unlikely to face charges but will have to explain her actions to welfare workers in Ireland.

Jobs scheme progress

The £1.5 billion employment training scheme to be launched on September 5 already has provision and funding for 270,000 of the 300,000 places needed in the first six months. Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, has said the Training Commission has reached agreement with prospective training managers for the 270,000 places. In a letter to *The Times*, Mr Fowler said negotiations were continuing for the balance of 30,000. The programme is aimed at training 600,000 people each year.

Letters, page 13

Gipsies 'a race apart'

Gipsies won the recognition of the law yesterday when the Court of Appeal declared them to be a racial group entitled to the protection of the Race Relations Act. The Commission for Racial Equality, which won the ruling, heralded it as a victory which would improve the rights of gipsies in all areas, including housing, education and local planning. The case came after a landlord in Hackney, east London, displayed a "no travellers" notice in his public house after "unpleasant experiences" with them. He had the backing of the Licensed Victuallers Association.

Steel plea to Owen

Mr David Steel yesterday appealed to the Owenites to join the newly merged Social and Liberal Democrats rather than remain a splinter group with little future. His call to help form "a cohesive party on the left of centre in British politics" was coupled with scathing references to the Social Democratic Party and its recent performance in the Kensington by-election and local council polls. Mr Steel was speaking at his last press conference as joint leader of the SLD before today's announcement of the new leader.

Killer to face trial

The self-confessed killer of Stuart Gough, aged 14, a paperboy from Hereford and Worcester, was yesterday committed to Crown Court for trial. Victor Miller, aged 33, a computer operator, of Penn Fields, Wolverhampton, faced a total of eight charges, including two of indecent assault, four of abduction and one of attempted abduction, all involving boys aged 13 to 18 between 1984 and 1988, when he appeared before Hereford magistrates. He was remanded in custody until the trial. Miller confessed to killing Stuart Gough the day after the boy's battered body was found. Reporting restrictions have been lifted.

Euro union talk 'airy fairy' says Thatcher

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister yesterday firmly slammed the brakes on progress towards the economic and political union of Europe as she delivered an outspoken attack on the president of the European Commission, Jacques Delors.

With the controversy over her appointment of Mr Leon Brittan as an EEC Commissioner rumbling on, Mrs Margaret Thatcher described as absurd M Delors's claim that within 10 years 80 per cent of a social and economic decisions would be made by the European Community and not national parliaments.

Interviewed on BBC radio the Prime Minister said that M Delors had been wrong to speak in the way he had; he had gone over the top.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, meanwhile, alleged that Mrs Thatcher had sent Mr Brittan to Brussels to get him out of the way. But he would take vengeance for her "treachery".

Although Mrs Thatcher has been privately critical of M Delors's vision of the future of the Community, she has never before been so scathing in public.

She said she could never imagine any head of government returning to his parliament and saying "well boys you won't have any powers in future". Any change in the treaties had to be agreed by

Gloom over failed festival



Mr Michael Agostini, chief executive of the London Festival, which collapsed after four days instead of running for the planned 16, yesterday gloomily contemplating the festival's liabilities - expected to be about £1 million - and his own losses - an estimated £150,000 - at the festival ground at Alexandra Palace, north London (Photograph: James Morgan).

Presenter joins TV council

Richard Baker, presenter of the BBC Promenade concerts, is joining the Government's new broadcasting watchdog body, it was disclosed yesterday.

The former newsreader is the third person appointed from the BBC to the Broadcasting Standards Council. Sir William Rees-Mogg, the former BBC vice-

chairman, has already been named as the council's chairman and yesterday it was announced that Miss Jocelyn Barrow, a governor of the corporation, would be its deputy chairman.

Other council members, confirmed by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, in a Commons written reply, are Mr Alfred Dubs, the former

Labour MP for Battersea, the Bishop of Peterborough, the Rt Rev William Westwood, Dr Jean Curtis-Raleigh, the psychologist, and Dr Brinley Jones, Welsh adviser to the British Council.

Miss Barrow will leave the BBC board this year to take up her part-time post for which she will be paid between £15,000 and £22,000 a year.

King hopes SAS men will appear at inquest

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

Mr Tom King said last night he hoped the SAS men involved in the Gibraltar shooting will appear as witnesses at the inquest in September.

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland discussed the issue at a meeting with Irish cabinet ministers in London.

Mr King told the Irish ministers that the Government would like the full story to be told about the deaths of three Provisional IRA terrorists, although Mrs Thatcher and senior

colleagues are concerned about the soldiers' attendance under conditions set by the Gibraltar coroner.

The issue of the soldiers' personal security was paramount, Mr King said. "I hope very much that it will be possible for them to attend and for the fullest information to be given to the coroner at that inquest."

He added that if the soldiers gave evidence a fuller picture would be gained of the appallingly dangerous threat that had been posed on

Gibraltar last March. Earlier Mr King had talked with Irish ministers for several hours during the latest meeting of the joint Anglo-Irish Ministerial Conference.

Mr King said that increasing co-operation between London and Dublin in the battle against terrorism was making the Provisional IRA desperate.

The IRA admitted last night that a Northern Ireland judge was the intended target of a bomb which

killed three members of a family returning from holiday.

Wrong information about the car in which Mr Justice Iain Higgins was travelling was passed on to terrorists and it led to the jeep carrying Mr Robin Hanna, his wife Maureen and six year old son David, being blown up by mistake at a border crossing.

A soldier suffered serious leg and eye injuries yesterday in an explosion in South Armagh and was taken by helicopter to a Belfast hospital.

20-hour delay to Majorca

By Robin Young

Some of the worst delays at airports yesterday occurred at Ringway, Manchester, where passengers had to wait for more than 20 hours for a flight to Majorca while other passengers at the airport faced long delays to Rhodes.

The Calair flight to Palma, which had been due to take off 15 minutes after midnight yesterday, eventually got away at 8pm last night.

Airport reports: Aberdeen: Regular scheduled traffic flying on time.

Birmingham: No problems.

Cardiff: Air Europe flights from and to Reus in Spain yesterday morning were delayed by just under an hour.

East London: Britannia flights from and to Rhodes were delayed by just over an hour.

Edinburgh: No problems.

Garwick: An Italian charter flight from Milan was delayed more than 19 hours, and as a result an onward flight to Verona was delayed by six hours. Darnair had delays of four hours to Palma and three to Venice; British Island Airways six hours late on a flight to Malaga; British Air Tours three hours late departing for Tenerife and Britannia delayed by six hours from Milan, and a 30-minute delay departing for Brindisi.

Leam: A British Island flight arrived from Bologna one and a half hours late, and Britannia had an 80-minute delay on a flight from Milan, and a 30-minute delay departing for Brindisi.

Manchester: Calair had an indefinite delay departing to Rhodes, and 20 hours to Palma. Darnair and Orion had flights two hours late leaving for Corfu and Rhodes respectively. Eleven early morning arrivals were delayed: Calair indefinitely from Palma, Darnair four hours from Corfu and Alicante, two hours from Milan, and a half hour from Palma; Air UK three hours from Tenerife; Orion two hours from Palma, one and a half hours from Tenerife, and one hour from Alicante; British Caledonian three hours from Aberdeen, and Amberair six hours from Dalaman (Turkey).

Newcastle: A Darnair flight was six hours late from Ibiza and Paramount one hour late from Rhodes.

Sheffield: A special Air UK charter was four hours late arriving from Milan and returning.

Correction

A photograph on July 17 showed Mr Norman Tibbit during the Kensington by-election with Major Oliver Smedley, founder president of the Free Trade Liberal Party, and Mr Eric Smeaton as stated in last edition.

For those of you who've only met our first born, here's the latest family photo



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Judges could have role in decisions on child care orders

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A new office of child protection with power to scrutinize local authorities' applications for care orders and challenge those that are ill-founded is proposed in a consultation paper issued by the Lord Chancellor yesterday.

The idea was one of the key proposals in the recent Butler-Sloss report on Cleveland sexual abuse cases. It said that if such machinery had existed, it might have been of benefit.

At the same time, the paper proposes enabling professional judges in the county court and High Court to deal with proceedings when local authorities want to take children into care.

The new office, which would probably take over some of the work of the Official Solicitors' Department, could invite a local authority to reconsider the bringing of care proceedings.

However, it would not be able to stop the proceedings outright, as that might lead to the local authority passing its problems to the office holder and to rely on his decisions, the paper says.

It would be answerable to the Lord Chancellor and Parliament and its work would affect the lives of a large number of families and have

responsibility for committing "substantial" funds.

In Scotland there is machinery for testing the strength of a local authority's case through the reporter in the children's hearing system. In England and Wales there is no such machinery, and a new office with this power could "reduce pressure on families" and cut delays in those cases which do go ahead, the paper says.

The Government has proposed, in its White Paper on child care, cutting the length of emergency orders from 28 to eight days which will make possible earlier scrutiny of the local authority's case for care.

The Lord Chancellor's paper points out that this will not prevent local authorities making applications which then turn out to be ill-founded.

A new office of child protection would have the same relationship to the courts as the Official Solicitor's office does now, the paper says. It would be substantially larger, have wider functions, different staff and a different constitution.

Another important proposal is that such proceedings, which at present can only be brought in the magistrates' courts, should be extended to the county courts and high courts to enable a better match of case to the appropriate level of judge. The Bar has been pressing for care proceedings to be removed from the magistrates altogether.

The new office of child protection would allocate cases to the right level and also manage cases and proceedings, ensuring timetables are obeyed and cutting delays.

It would also recommend who should be parties to the proceedings, commission investigations or reports where needed and resolve problems of access to information.

Last night Mr Michael Sternberg, assistant secretary of the Family Law Bar Association, said the association welcomed the proposals to give the High Court and county court jurisdiction in care proceedings. "We believe this will result in the more difficult cases being dealt with by the appropriate person."

The report also proposes better arrangements for protecting the child's interests in care proceedings through improving the independence, professional management and training of guardians ad litem (social workers appointed to represent the child's interests).

Miss Jane Hern, secretary of the Law Society's family law committee, said that the committee welcomed the proposal ensuring cases were handled at the right level. "If we are to have these proposals for allocating cases to the right level of judge, why not go the whole way and set up a Family Court?" she asked.

Improvements in the Arrangements for Care Proceedings (Lord Chancellor's Department, Trevelyan House, 30 Great Peter Street, London SW1P 2BY; free).

Standing ovation for St Laurent finale



Two from the St Laurent couture show: a suit with buttons providing the detail and an off-the-shoulder short evening dress (Photographs: Harry Kerr).

By Liz Smith, Fashion Editor, Paris

The emotionally charged atmosphere in the Yves St Laurent couture show in Paris yesterday, fanned by performance of Maria Callas singing 24 arias, exploded into lengthy applause with the traditional bridal finale to the show.

This was a ballerina-length dress with off-the-shoulder neckline of such limpid simplicity that the enthusiastic audience rose to its feet.

St Laurent himself carried the bouquet, which he thrust at his model. He appeared visibly moved by the 10-minute standing ovation with which a flawless collection of tailored suits and draped dresses of smouldering sensuality had been received.

The cape, which St Laurent has tossed around for decades, and which this season reappears as a strong trend throughout the couture shows, opened his collection.

It is clasped over a tweed or flannel suit and it brought the show to a dramatic conclusion in the vivid satin or dusky chiffons that matched the superbly draped evening dresses worn underneath.

His mouth-watering cocktail of colour is a revelation at any St Laurent show. This season he clashes sapphire blue with ochre, loden green with cognac and chestnut, tobacco and gold with oyster grey.

St Laurent suits may be sharp-shouldered but they ease themselves flatteringly to the body. Buttons, a fashionable snappy detailing, now even run right up a sleeve from cuff to shoulder.

Bands of colour outline the silhouette, often in a folksy mix of red and green or ivory or black. The hemline is short, but he experiments again with an over-the-knee length, to which many women will need time to get adjusted.

Asked in an interview afterwards to pick his favourite from the show, the designer chose his tuxedo suits and dresses.

By now a St Laurent classic, the maestro still managed to produce 24 new versions for us yesterday, the newest with long skirts, and one even cut like a sailor's smock in black velvet over a white crepe shirt.

To one black satin lapel he mischievously pinned his Legion d'Honneur as the only decoration.

St Laurent secured his place in fashion history three decades ago when he took over briefly from Dior as the couturier's death in 1957.

In the years since he has remained the unrivalled leader of world fashion. He consistently sets trends that dictate what women everywhere today wear.

The simple blazer, safari jacket, military blouse, the peasant skirt and off-the-shoulder blouse, and the tuxedo that fashionable women, including the Princess of Wales, enjoy wearing, have all come into fashion off the sketch pads of this master of elegance.

His lavish embroidered jackets, museum pieces all of them, are regularly inspired by painters. Picasso, the impressionists and, most recently, cubists, have all featured.

This season's three-dimensional clusters of grapes and roses were drawn by St Laurent himself. The inspiration, if any, is Bonnard.

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Winner to keep news from wife

A Portfolio win of £2,000 has improved Mr Richard Halling's business prospects no end. "I'm a bookmaker and it has been a rotten day at Goodwood, so this will help to pay the punters", he said. Mr Halling, aged 52, from Tring, Hertfordshire, added: "I'm not telling the wife and she'll never find out because she doesn't read the papers". He shares the daily prize of £4,000 with Mr Kenneth Gregory, of Longfield, Kent.

House prices pass the peak

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Property prices have increased on average by 15 per cent in the first six months of the year, and by double that rate in some parts of the country, the Woolwich Building Society states in its latest house price guide released yesterday.

At the beginning of the year, it predicted an overall average rise of 15 per cent for 1988, a figure reached by the end of last month because of a number of factors, including relatively low mortgage interest rates, budget tax cuts and the multiple tax relief deadline.

"We believed that demand has now peaked in many areas. House prices will continue to rise, but the combination of the August tax relief deadline, higher interest rates

and the traditional fall-off in activity during the holiday season means the rate of increase will be far less than in the first six months of the year."

The Woolwich guide is compiled by its surveyors, and is based on their estimates rather than mortgage offers or completions.

It shows the "ripple" effect of house price increases away from London, and reports that one of last year's slowest growth areas, Yorkshire, is now the fastest growing with prices in Leeds and Sheffield rising on average by 28 per cent and 25 per cent respectively.

There were similar increases in the North-west. In

the Midlands, prices have risen by 26 per cent compared with 22 per cent in 1987, with Birmingham and Wolverhampton showing increases of more than 30 per cent.

The survey indicates the slowing down of increases in London and the South-east, where prices are up by 11 per cent this year compared with 25 per cent in 1987.

Wales is beginning to show sizeable increases, with Cardiff up by 25 per cent.

Mr The Bradford & Bingley Building Society said yesterday that in 22 per cent of mortgages in the first five months of this year a woman was named first in a joint application, against 16 per cent over the same time last year.

I have nothing to do with drugs, says Howard Marks

Book is blamed for arrest in Palma

By Howard Foster, Majorca

Howard Marks, the Englishman arrested in Majorca three days ago as the alleged mastermind behind the world's biggest hashish smuggling operation, spoke from jail yesterday to protest his innocence.

The Oxford graduate, aged 43, who was arrested at gunpoint at his family villa in Palma, is one of four people held on the island as the United States presses for their extradition to face charges involving the shipping there of billions of dollars' worth of hashish.

The American Drug Enforcement Agency spent two years investigating the ring before an international operation began on Monday to arrest 22 people.

Spanish police, working with British and US drugs officers, are believed to have tapped Mr Marks's telephone for weeks before the arrests. His wife, Judith, is held in a Palma jail with him.

Mr Marks' unkempt, short of sleep and chain-smoking, told journalists at the prison that he hoped to avoid extradition and blamed a book about his earlier admitted drug-smuggling exploits, for which he was jailed for three years, for his present predicament.

"Only America says this", Mr Marks commented on the 22 allegations against him. "It

is wrong. It is because of the book."

He said that in 1973 he had moved 800 kilos of hashish into England, the Netherlands and the US. "Since then I have had nothing to do with drugs", he said. He had settled in Majorca "to avoid taps."

"I have a travel agency in London with 12 offices around the world", he said. When asked if he had smoked and marijuana, he laughed and replied: "Yes, it is very good". He added that the marijuana business "is a very good business for very many people and I know many people who do it. They are mainly very good people."

He said his wife, Judith, aged 36, who has been separated from her daughters, aged 10 and seven, and her 18-month-old son, had been arrested to put pressure on him.

Mr Marks described his financial position as "normal" although Spanish police said on Tuesday that his end of the drug operation alone had a turnover of \$1 million (£571,000) a year.

He was visited in jail yesterday by his London-based solicitor, Mr Michael Katz, an American who has been acting for Mr Marks and his Hong Kong International Travel Agency for three months. Mr Katz hoped to establish that extradition could be successful.

fully fought under Spanish statutes. The US authorities have 90 days to put their case.

The charges are emphatically denied", Mr Katz said. "He was involved 15 years ago and he pleaded guilty to it. It could be that former associates of his have pointed the



finger wrongly at him. I have no doubt that there is a massive international drug-smuggling ring.

"The judge in England accepted that from 1973 onwards Howard has led an honest and industrious life. He is one of the kindest-hearted people I have ever met."

"He works very hard and spends a lot of time trying to develop his business. He was in Taiwan the week before last preparing a travel brochure. He has not been to the US since 1982."

Mr Marks's image as a hard-

working, if slightly unconventional, family man was wholly accepted by his closest friends on Majorca, Bob and Lesley Edwardes, both restaurateurs.

They said that the Marks's villa, surrounded by a 10ft wall, had been for sale for more than £100,000 for six months as the family prepared to return to London to establish the two daughters in English schools.

"We knew of Howard's past but he made it clear that it was a thing of the past", Mr Edwardes said. "Marijuana seemed to him to be an inoffensive way of enjoyment. But on a couple of occasions he spoke out vehemently against hard drugs and expressed his total revulsion for hard drugs."

"At no stage in the four years I have known him has he ever offered me any grass and he never used it. We have been in and out of his home enough times to know."

The Edwardes said that Mr Marks and his family, though comfortably off, never displayed overt signs of great wealth.

Mr Marks drove a Ford Fiesta, sent his children to an English-speaking school in Palma and would usually eat Welsh rarebit and a plate of cod if he visited the restaurant near his home in La Vileta, to the north of the town.

Family haven of drugs ring suspect

Neighbours of Mr Howard Marks, who is being held in Spain suspected of leading a drugs ring, yesterday described the unobtrusive family life he led with his wife and three children at a house in Chelsea, west London.

Mr Marks, aged 43, is said to be the ring leader of the world's biggest drug syndicate.

Residents of Cathcart Road, west London, spoke of him as a shy man who kept himself to himself behind heavily locked doors. He was also a man who would lead his jump leads when a neighbour's car broke down and go out for drinks with them.

Oakfield Street, opposite the house for several months waiting for the right moment to arrest him.

His wife, Judith, who was also arrested in Majorca, moved into the three-bedroomed property after giving birth to the couple's second child. It was some time before her husband joined her after he had concluded a three year term for cannabis smuggling.

The family of five, including an 18-month-old baby, spent half their time in Chelsea and half in Majorca, always taking the children with them.

Shortly before his arrest Marks, an Oxford graduate, disclosed to neighbours that the family planned to settle permanently at the maisonette though he was anxious to see how the children would get on at school.

A barricade of security alarms lay behind the broken down front door which previously boasted three mortice locks and two spy holes.

Mr Marcus Postlethwaite, aged 25, said: "They were very pleasant intelligent people, and well educated. They came back about two weeks ago from Majorca and Howard had the intention of putting the kids in school permanently here to see whether they would be happy. They just seemed a very normal family."

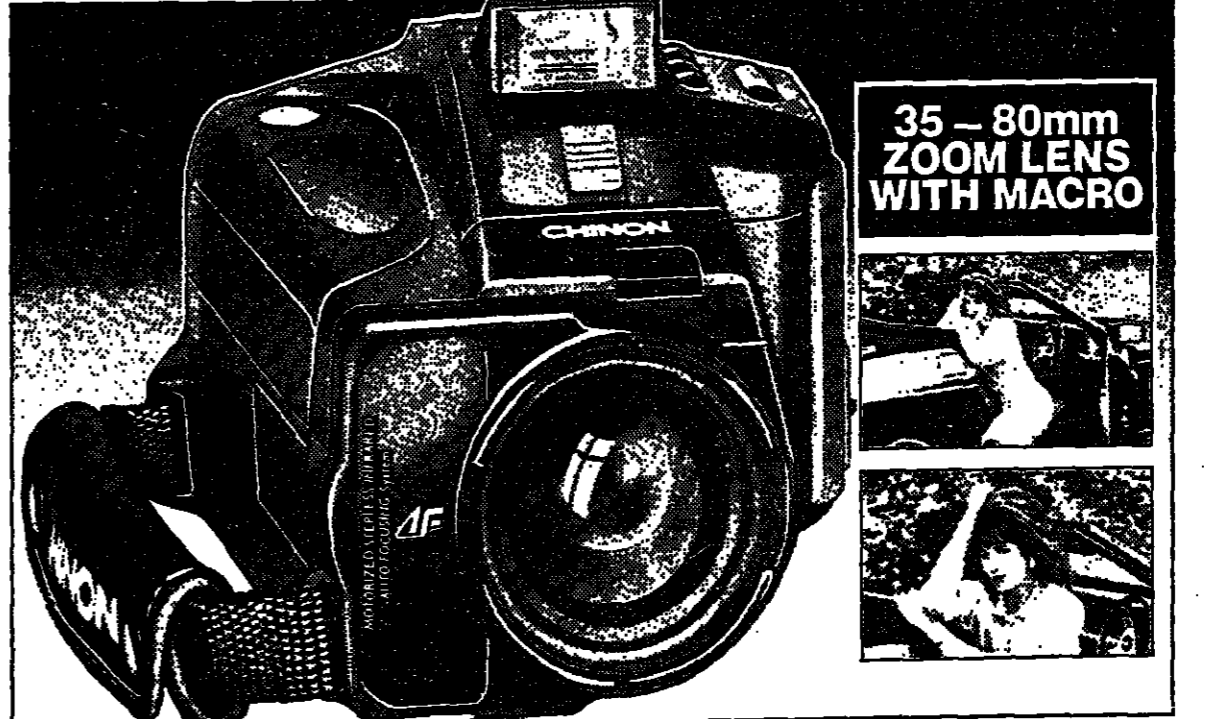
Mr Postlethwaite added: "It came as some surprise to see different photographs of Howard which had been issued."

Another neighbour, who declined to give his name, said: "We weren't aware of any activity until his arrest. It was only then we realized what that van was doing all that time opposite the house?"

The neighbour added: "They were simply a very nice family. They always smiled when you bumped into them."

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MPs ridicule high cost of new HQ for energy department

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Department of Energy was rebuked and ridiculed yesterday by an all-party committee of MPs for "unjustified and excessive" expenditure on its new multi-million pound headquarters opposite Buckingham Palace.

In a scathing report, the Tory-controlled energy committee suggested that the independent National Audit Office should investigate the matter.

The MPs point with equal scorn to the annual £144,000 cost of storing petrol-rationing coupons in London. "We understand that secure commercial storage space can be rented for £1.50 a square foot in Liverpool", they observe.

The department, headed by Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Cabinet minister who is to adjudicate between spending departments and the Treasury in the forthcoming round of public expenditure battles, is having to move from its present Millbank headquarters next year because the lease is expiring.

It is going to Buckingham Gate, where running costs will rise by 25 per cent in spite of a 24 per cent reduction in floor space.

In addition, £7.8 million of taxpayers' money, or more than £7,000 an employee, is being spent on refurbishing the building.

The MPs observe that the benefits of that spending will accrue almost entirely to the building's freeholder. They then declare that "this mag-

nitude of spending on office accommodation is unjustified and excessive".

With energy industries being privatized one after another, and with persistent rumours that the department might be amalgamated with another, "this seems a curious time to equip expensive new headquarters",

Moreover, the MPs say, there is no good reason why much of the department's work could not be done outside London, in Scotland where the oil industry is based, or in former coal-mining areas to compensate for pit closures.

Modern telecommunications made that eminently feasible, the report says.

"Office costs in Aberllyryon or Pontefract would be a fraction of Buckingham Gate."

"Furthermore, we believe that some of the department's offices which will necessarily remain in the capital city could be located in areas which are convenient for Westminster and Whitehall but not necessarily in prime areas. Examples would include Brixton and Paddington."

Approaches by two foreign companies are believed to be among nine bids being considered by the Department of Trade and Industry for the National Engineering Laboratory, which has close links with many of Britain's top companies.

The 40-year-old laboratory at East Kilbride, Strathclyde,

Mayor turns smithy for Shire meeting



The Lord Mayor of London, Sir Greville Spratt, tried his hand as a blacksmith during a visit yesterday to the City Stables. He also saw some of the Shire horses that pulled his coach during the Lord Mayor's Show. One horse, Mighty, is away walking around Britain for charity (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Scottish raspberry crop devastated by storms

By Kerry Gill

Up to a third of Britain's raspberry crop has been destroyed during this week's violent storms, which have left whole fields devastated.

Farmers in Tayside, where four fifths of Britain's raspberries are produced, face losses running into millions of pounds.

Many farmers are expected to ask for compensation from the Government after the damage. Gale-force winds have cut huge swathes through

raspberry fields in Tayside. Crops lie crushed under their own weight. 5ft support posts have been flattened and even fruit left standing has been badly damaged.

Mrs Helen Morrison, who with her husband, Donald, has a 100-acre raspberry farm on the edge of Forfar, said yesterday: "A third of our normal production has been lost. It is terrible."

"Whole fields are just devastated. It is unbelievable, everything is broken and flattened. Nobody can remember

anything like this." The Morrisons, who process much of their produce at their factory, reckon their own losses could amount to £100,000.

Many of the farmers have lost about a tonne an acre, between a half and a third of their normal production. Losses were aggravated because the storms arrived at the height of the picking season.

Mr John Whitehead, convener of the soft fruit committee of the National Farmers' Union of Scotland,

said damage varied from holding to holding, and field to field. "Generally, the crops have been very badly damaged. Some farmers have lost between 25 and 35 per cent", he said. "Whole rows of raspberries have been completely flattened. Fruit has been shaken to the ground and fruit left on the plants had been crushed by leaves and canes."

Potatoes, oil seed rape and winter barley have also been badly affected by the winds.

Secondary school teaching condemned

Baker attacks 'conspiracy'

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, yesterday launched a fierce attack on classroom standards after an official report found that 1,000 secondary schools in England were substandard.

He said the finding by the Inspectors of Schools that teaching in a quarter of the 4,000 secondary schools in England was "disgraceful and deplorable".

The inspectors, in a survey of secondary education between 1982 and 1986 had broken "a conspiracy of silence" by education professionals over serious shortcomings in schools, he said.

"I think it is disgraceful that 20 to 25 per cent of our schools could be considered unsatisfactory, and it is wholly deplorable that one in 10 can be described as poor or very poor."

"Just think of the children in those schools. We must not let them down. I think forces we have unleashed in the Education Reform Bill will have a great effect on levering-up standards."

"There has been some concern for some years about standards. For a long time there was a conspiracy of

silence about it. Everyone believed things were getting better.

"Only in the last two or three years has it been evident that it has not all been progress towards the broad, sunny uplands. There have been great problems which are now clear and evident, particularly in secondary schools."

"This is a complete vindication for measures we have taken in the Education Reform Bill."

Mr Baker was speaking after delivering a speech to the annual conference of the Professional Association of Teachers in Durham in which he promised action to remedy problems with the new GCSE examination.

Speaking within hours of the publication of a report by head teachers which criticized the GCSE, Mr Baker said the new examination remained "central to the task of raising standards in schools".

However, he sought to reassure the 700,000 fifth-formers who took GCSE for the first time this year that the examination boards would make allowances for the effect of what he termed "teething troubles". He said that he had already instructed the Second-

Lambeth Conference

A Daniel is told of mixed blessings

By Ruth Gledhill

Like Daniel in the lions' den, the Bishop of Colorado, a Clark Kent look-alike in a grey suit and a dark blue tie, walked among more than 400 bishops' wives yesterday at Canterbury.

The Right Rev William Frey nervously cleared his throat and disclosed that a group of bishops at the Lambeth Conference a few yards away had voted that to speak on the role of the bishop's wife "was the dumbest thing any bishop could do" and had sent him off "with prayers and meditation".

Several wives told the meeting they had to work full-time to support their husbands, including Bishop Frey's wife Barbara, who worked for an insurance company to help to put him through the

seminary when he was training.

Mrs Grace Annobil, wife of the Bishop of Sekondi in Ghana, a nurse with five children, said her family had to move to a poverty-stricken area where they had no home and no income when her husband was chosen to be a bishop. She supported them all by working full-time.

Mrs Christine Folwell, wife of the Bishop of Central Florida, said she had learnt in 39 years of marriage to "struggle to define and then maintain my own identity as distinct from that of my husband".

Mrs Susan Chang-Him, wife of the Archbishop of the Indian Ocean, who lives in the Seychelles, said that she works as a dental therapist partly to

support her husband and twin daughters, her mother and the church. "If I want to speak to another bishop's wife, I have to travel 1,000 miles."

Mrs Leah Tam, wife of Archbishop Tutu, reduced the wives to laughter when she called a halt to the meeting, which she was chairing, and told them the wives to turn to each other and say: "My husband is a good boy but I am a better girl". After summing-up at the end she said: "One of the things we have to do is to never forget to say a prayer for our husbands."

She said: "Judging from the demonstration yesterday it is not going to be long before we have bishops discussing how to be a bishop's husband."

Editors to seek open court lists

Editors to seek open court lists

The Guild of British Newspaper Editors is calling for the Home Office to ensure public access to magistrates' records.

"The magistrates' records of the public to find out a court ruling without sitting through the hearing."

Mr Malcolm Cross, chairman of the guild's parliamentary committee, said: "We appreciate the Home Office's intention to provide the public with more information."

Some newspapers already publish daily lists, but many do not and refuse to provide information.

Risley protest

The detention of a Malaysian couple, Mr San Chai and his wife, Mrs Wang, in Risley remand centre, Cheshire, has brought a protest to the Home Office from Mr Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkdale, who has sought to stop deportation of the couple.

Eaglet flies

A chick has flown its nest after a successful breeding season by the only pair of golden eagles in England, the RSPB said yesterday. The nest, at a secret location near Haweswater in the Lake District, has been used by the pair for 19 years.

Robbery case

Klaus Wulke, aged 37, a West German, was remanded in custody until August 24 by Bow Street magistrates in London yesterday facing extradition to the Federal Republic, where he is wanted for questioning in connection with a £45,000 bank robbery.

Water danger

More than 5,000 residents in the Wiltshire area of Cumbria as well as thousands of tourists have been advised to boil all water used for drinking or food preparation until further notice after the failure of disinfecting equipment at a local treatment plant.

Chief retires

Mr Malcolm Popperwell, the Avon and Somerset assistant chief constable, is retiring aged 54 after 34 years' service. He suffered a heart attack while leading a drugs raid into St Paul's, Bristol, in September 1986 which prompted two days of rioting.

PC's plea fails

The Court of Appeal yesterday upheld the Chief Constable of Gwent's right to refuse to allow Police Constable Ian Champion to sit on a school governors' committee, saying he had the power to restrict officers' private lives when fearing conflict of duty.

Jail for killing

Jeremy Brinkley, aged 26, of Ferndale Grove, Bradford, West Yorkshire, was jailed for life yesterday at Leeds Crown Court for the murder last September of Miss Doris Whitaker, aged 59, in Huddersfield.

Science park to exploit MoD studies

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The Ministry of Defence is planning an industrial science park to increase the "spin-off" of inventions from its research establishments into civil applications.

The venture will probably be near the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment at Malvern, Hereford and Worcester.

The idea of a science park, consisting of high-technology companies exploiting discoveries from defence research, is outlined in the latest survey of *Government Funded Research and Development*, prepared by the Cabinet Office, published yesterday.

It shows the continuing dominance of the Ministry of Defence in spending on research and development.

The ministry spent almost

half of the £4,590 million allocated last year by government departments for military, industrial and academic science and technology.

Nevertheless there has been a decline of £153 million in spending on defence research.

The review also shows trends in investment by industry in research, and compares the performance of Britain with its main competitors.

West Germany provided £500 million more than Britain for government-funded research last year, yet only a tenth of it went on defence. France spent £850 million more than the UK, and again a third less went on defence.

In West Germany twice as

much money goes for work to advance industrial production and technology, and almost three times on energy and basic science in the universities.

The amount of research in industry increased by 7 per cent last year, but the proportion provided by industry itself, as opposed to government, fell slightly.

The review divides government spending into four main groups: defence £2,264 million, civil departments £1,047 million, universities £720 million and the five research councils £557 million.

It reports on the introduction by most of the government departments of "technology transfer programmes" to get more innovations devel-

oped in Civil Service establishments taken up by industry.

The defence research establishments interact with industry and the civil sector in various ways.

More than £150 million of research work is carried out under contract in industry and with academic groups.

A recently formed private company, Defence Technology Enterprises, created to encourage development by industry of work in the defence centres, has already made agreements for exploiting specific technologies that should generate £40 million in civil sales over six years.

1988 Annual Review of Government Funded Research & Development (Stationery Office, £10.95).

TUC advertisement backed

By Tim Jones

Lord Thomson of Monifieth, chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, may adjudicate in a dispute over the "political purity" of TUC-sponsored advertisements intended to increase trade union membership.

Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC, is mystified by the decision of the IBA and the Independent Television Association to reject three pilot advertisements for being allegedly anti-Government.

According to the TUC, the advertisements, part of its "Building for the Future" campaign, have been opposed by the companies and the IBA because they allegedly fall foul of the code of practice which forbids insertion of material

"wholly or mainly of a political nature or any advertisement which may be directed towards any political end".

A theme of the pilot advertisements, which cost the TUC £50,000, is that free trade unions are a measure of a free society.

One shows a man walking down a long corridor and opening a bag which, when the camera pans back, turns out to be the Union Flag flying over the Houses of Parliament. The message says: "Trade Unions - it is a good job we are here".

The other two advertisements show the protection and help a union can give to people in their place of work.

Rejection of the three pilot advertisements has led to a sharp exchange between the

IBA and Delaney, Fletcher, Delaney, the agency responsible for preparing them for the TUC.

Mr Barry Delaney said last night: "The advertisements merely sought to show the benefits of trade union membership in the same way as an insurance company sells its services."

Mr Delaney said: "We believe the advertisements did nothing more than to explain the benefits of trade union membership and were not in any way political or aimed against the Government."

The IBA said: "The view was taken by the ITV association and ourselves that in this particular instance there was a conflict of interest with the IBA code".

Peeling away the layers of allusion

By Philip Howard, Literary Editor

Classicists of the world at their triennial meeting in Oxford yesterday examined the poet who is a thousand books to a thousand people. The *Aeneid* is an inexhaustible onion.

Layer upon layer of allusion, overtone, doubt, reservation, ambiguity, and melancholy is peeled away by the critics until it is a miracle that any onion is left. Professor David West, of Newcastle University, reassured that the poem's primary purpose is to praise Augustus.

Modern scholars dislike mixing politics with poetry, and shy away from a poet who praises the ruling establishment. Not all ages are like our own, however. In the decade after the Battle of Actium there were poets who saw in the prosperity, moral reform, and artistic and intellectual enlightenment. We distort their work if we neglect their praise for

that regime. They praised Augustus with skill and tact, directly and obliquely. They knew Augustus and his family personally.

Augustus knew them, and rewarded them richly. Professor West, the maestro textual commentator of our time, took his master class through the political and topical references in the accomplished and allusive panegyric that is *The Aeneid*. He did not deny the other voices in the poem. Virgil knew the effort required to found Rome, and the cost of establishing a world empire. However, he balanced the cost against the achievement - and so should we.

Dr Alan Bowman, of Christchurch, and Dr David Thomas, of Durham University, brought the latest hot news from the northern frontier of that world empire. They are piecing together the hoards of documents written on sheets of

wood being found in a rubbish dump at Vindolanda on Hadrian's Wall.

The latest find, as yet unpublished, includes: a chatty letter from a governor's groom to his brother; an inventory of tableware including egg cups and vinegar bowls of the kind commanding officers still pass to their successors; and formal letters from soldiers asking for leave.

It is remarkable how well these Batavian cavalry are writing within 30 years of receiving Roman citizenship: quoting Virgil, and referring to the fighting qualities of the people they describe as "little Brits". There are many different hands, not all of them officers', and not all of them male.

More gifts for the taxman

By Andrew Billen

The taxman last year accepted items worth a record sum in lieu of tax, the Museums and Galleries Commission announced yesterday.

Eleven offerings, worth £8,627,464 to the Inland Revenue, were accepted in the past financial year. They included Constable's "Stratford Mill", which was allocated to the National Gallery and equalled £5.5 million in tax.

The total compares with £2.4 million in 1986-87 and £2.1 million in 1985-86. The decision on whether to accept an item in lieu of taxes rests with the Government, but it is advised by the commission. It pointed out yesterday that 11 of the 15 items, or groups of

items, received in the past two years went to museums outside London.

The increase in donations is attributed to the precedent set by the Tate Gallery.

That received the donation of Picasso's "Weeping Woman", for which the Inland Revenue accepted only £1.2 million in lieu, leaving the gallery to find the remaining £1.05 million. The hybrid arrangement originated from discussions between the commission and the Tate.

Yesterday, Professor Brian Morris, commission chairman, said he wanted more donations and he was not above making tactful approaches to those owners of

valuable items who might be worried about death duties.

Mrs Heather Wilson, the commission's capital tax officer, said that discussions were sometimes initiated before a death.

Professor Morris said: "It does not have to be a Rembrandt off a wall. We have in the past examined the possibility of getting scientific instruments accepted in lieu of tax. A surgical saw could count. Even a microscope has come under the microscope."

The report claims that by arranging government indemnity for £100 million worth of museum loans last year the commission saved museums £3.5 million in insuring them.

Buthelezi welcome puts accent on moderation



Mrs Thatcher and Chief Buthelezi yesterday at 10 Downing Street, where they underlined joint hostility to sanctions.

By Andrew McEwen
Diplomatic Correspondent

For six weeks the cause of "armed struggle" to end apartheid has enjoyed constant attention, mainly because of the 70th birthday of Nelson Mandela and the visit to Britain of Mr Oliver Tambo.

But yesterday the alternative path of peaceful change came back into focus with a meeting of its two best-known proponents, Mrs Thatcher and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the most prominent black South African leader opposed to sanctions.

The Prime Minister's decision to see him at Downing Street was a pointed gesture, clearly meant to be contrasted with her refusal to meet Mr Tambo, president of the African National Congress, which she described last year as a terrorist organization.

She has made it clear that she regards Chief Buthelezi as the leading voice of black moderation in South Africa. The admiration is mutual, as he showed in an interview with *The Times* saying she had been "very brave and courageous" in holding out

against international pressure to tighten the economic screw.

He fully supports her policy of trying to bring about increased democracy in South Africa by strengthening its economy instead of weakening it. "Her candour is like a breath of fresh air. She has been very constructive in her dealings with EEC heads of states," he said.

Both argue that change is more likely to come about in an expanding economy and that to destroy jobs in the search for freedom would be wrong and counter-productive.

After the talks, Downing Street officials said that Chief Buthelezi had made clear the widespread opposition among black South Africans to sanctions, while the Prime Minister emphasized the important role foreign companies could have in bringing down apartheid. The two leaders agreed that the key to starting negotiations was the release of Nelson Mandela, leader of the ANC, and the suspension of violence.

Chief Buthelezi, who is Chief Minister of KwaZulu and president of the mainly Zulu Inkatha movement, which has 1.6 million members, said

that Pretoria would never allow itself to be seen to respond directly to outside pressure. He called for a truce in guerrilla activity, coupled with a period of reduced criticism, to test President Botha's willingness to make concessions.

Chief Buthelezi believes that President Botha intended to release Mandela, but was alarmed by reaction to the earlier release of Mr Govan Mbeki, the ANC's deputy head. "He is just petrified of the right wing," Chief Buthelezi said. "For the time being... the only thing that is occupying his mind is the municipal elections in October."

He added: "If only there was a way of (us all) piping down somehow, because I don't think they (Pretoria) would want to be perceived to be doing anything under pressure. Quiet diplomacy is likely to be the thing."

Downing Street has hinted that Mrs Thatcher's willingness to play a direct role and to visit South Africa depends on Mandela's release.

Chief Buthelezi's image in Britain has been adversely affected by two factors. The first is that in photographs he is usually portrayed wearing

the costume of a Zulu warrior. The second is that Mr Tambo has accused him of being too helpful to Pretoria.

The image does not really fit. Meeting him in London, the first impression came from his careful choice of moderate language. He speaks softly and very fast, but rarely in headlines, which may explain why the ANC usually beats him on publicity points. Ask him to reply to biting criticisms by Mr Tambo and he begins: "I can appreciate what Mr Tambo says but at the same time..."

What follows is an implicit attack on Mr Tambo which avoids direct confrontation.

"There are two big non-violent weapons that African people have got, consumer power and worker power. These have not been effective up to now. Why? Because of disunity. If you asked me what is the biggest obstacle, I would say black disunity," he said.

Influential friends in Britain say there is no doubt about his passionate opposition to apartheid. He differs from most of his contemporaries only on the means, not the end. "The realities of Africa scream out to me to be a pragmatist," he said.

Reagan 'agrees action' to oust Noriega

From Mohsin Ali
Washington

President Reagan has authorized covert action to remove the military leader of Panama, General Manuel Noriega, a newspaper said yesterday.

But Mr Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, declined to comment, taking the standard line of the Administration to say that it never discussed such intelligence matters with the press.

An unnamed Administration official was later said to have confirmed part of the report in *The Washington Post*, which claimed that a so-called "covert action finding" had been signed. But the official would not confirm any other aspects of the story, or reveal what specific operation Mr Reagan had authorized.

The newspaper said that a well-placed source, who had confirmed the move, had said that no military action was imminent but declined to discuss any details of the covert plan. Another source said it appeared that the authorization involved activities that fell short of a paramilitary operation to remove General Noriega, such as kidnapping.

The *Post* had also quoted an Administration official as saying that Mr Reagan had telephoned Senior Eric Delvalle, who Washington still recognizes as the President of Panama, on July 15 in New York, where he was receiving a medical examination, and told him of the plan.

The newspaper also quoted a congressional source as saying that the proposal did not seem to represent a great stepping-up of efforts to remove General Noriega.

Mr Fitzwater would only say that there was no change in US policy or the status of affairs in Panama. American economic sanctions, designed to speed the general's removal, were still in place.

But he did confirm that President Reagan had called Senior Delvalle in New York on July 15 simply to reiterate his support and his commitment to freedom in Panama.

Mr Fitzwater, asked if he were confirming that Mr Reagan did not discuss any new covert activity plans with Senior Delvalle, said: "We never discuss covert activities, so I would just say that the discussion was limited to the points I mentioned."

UN search for Gulf settlement

Obstacles remain to early ceasefire as war rages on

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

The talk in New York yesterday was of peace, but on the Iran-Iraq battle fronts the fighting was among the heaviest for months.

Senior Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN Secretary-General, shuttled between meetings with the foreign ministers of both countries trying to negotiate a date for the ceasefire, which both have accepted in principle.

He said last night that both sides were interested in ending the conflict and he wanted the earliest possible ceasefire.

After his two initial meetings on Tuesday with Mr Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian Foreign Minister, which he said were "very constructive and fruitful", the Secretary-General yesterday met Mr Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi Foreign Minister.

But Mr Aziz repeated Baghdad's call for face-to-face talks, which Iran rejected last week. "We shall seek guarantees and we believe that the first step and the starter for constructive work is face-to-face negotiations between the two parties under the auspices of the Secretary-General. If the Iranians do not accept that formula, that means that they are not sincere about peace."

The talks are expected to continue for at least a week and officials hope that a date for the ceasefire will be declared early next month.

But amid the mud and death of the central front, military fortunes swung first one way, then the other. An Iranian town captured by Iraq-based Iranian opposition forces on Tuesday was retaken by Iranian troops, only to be lost again a few hours later.

The nine days since Tehran accepted the Security Council's Resolution 598, which calls for a ceasefire, followed

by an exchange of prisoners and steps leading to full peace, have seen a huge increase in the bloodshed.

But for both sides the real prize is neither casualties nor territory but the upper hand in negotiations which will follow the ceasefire. With an exchange of prisoners of war looming, Iraq has felt at a disadvantage because Iran held far greater numbers. But Baghdad announced yesterday that 12,207 Iranians had been taken in an offensive begun last Friday. The total now in its hands was unknown, but the two sides could now be approaching parity.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has estimated that Iraq held about 12,000 Iranians up to the end of 1987, and Baghdad says it has captured over 30,000 more since launching a series of offensives in April. The Red Cross has also estimated that Iran holds about 50,000 Iraqis.

A United Nations team in Tehran is carrying out preliminary checks in preparation for the repatriation of prisoners. Under Resolution 598 this is due to follow the ceasefire.

The Iranian town of Islamabad-Gharb, 60 miles inside its border, has changed hands three times in 24 hours. It was

seized on Tuesday by the National Liberation Army, the military wing of Mujahedin Khalq, the main Iranian opposition group. Iran said yesterday that it had retaken it, only to concede later that the National Liberation Army had clawed its way back.

Tehran claims that Iraqi forces have also been involved in the fighting, which Baghdad has denied.

The National Liberation Army said it was advancing on Kermanshah, which Iran calls Bakhtar, a provincial capital 30 miles north-east of Islamabad-Gharb. It said it shot down two Iranian F4 Phantoms and a Cobra helicopter gunship north-east of Islamabad-Gharb, while Baghdad said it downed an Iranian F5 fighter east of Basra.

The NLA also claimed that at least 30,000 Revolutionary Guards were killed or wounded in the fighting. Tehran said that 1,100 NLA or Iraqi soldiers were killed at Islamabad-Gharb.

Tehran said Revolutionary Guards drove the Iraqis out of a southern border strip north of the Iranian port of Khorramshahr. The Guards Corps attacked positions of the 8th division of the Iraqi 85th Brigade situated in the Shalamcheh area, west of the town.

A communiqué issued by the Armed Forces General Command said Iranian forces cleared them out of 12 square miles of Iranian territory in a dawn attack on the southern front. It claimed that 1,500 Iraqis were killed or wounded.

NEW YORK: The foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq began their first full day of indirect peace negotiations at the United Nations yesterday with harsh words (Christopher

Thomas writes). Mr Ali Akbar Velayati said that Iraqi troops would receive a "lesson they won't forget" if they did not leave Iranian territory.

And Mr Tariq Aziz defiantly made it clear that Iraq did not intend to be stamped into any decision.

In testimony to the US Congress yesterday Mr Richard Murphy, the US Assistant Secretary of State for the Middle East, told Congress that the United States was supporting Senior Pérez de Cuéllar's peace efforts "in every possible way". It was reasonable to expect a ceasefire within a few weeks.

Meanwhile, Mr Velayati complained bitterly that Iraq was continuing a big push and repeated claims that its forces were using chemical weapons. The UN Security Council gave the Secretary-General a message expressing deep concern about continued fighting and charges that Iraq was using chemical weapons.

In his first two meetings with Mr Velayati, the Secretary-General avoided raising the issue of the hostages held by pro-Iranian Islamic fundamentalists in Lebanon. But UN officials made it clear that the question of releasing the captives would have to be addressed in the final text of a peace settlement.

The officials said that Senior Pérez de Cuéllar would argue that by obtaining the captives' freedom, Tehran could win international sympathy and clear the way for better relations with Washington.

General Vernon Walters, the US chief representative to the UN, insisted that it would be "very difficult" for Washington to resume relations with Tehran unless the hostages were freed.

Spectrum, page 10

Korean MPs re-enact torture



Members of a South Korean National Assembly committee re-enacting the water torture of Park Chong Chol, a student who died during police interrogation last year. Five policemen were jailed for up to 15 years, but the case is being studied as part of an investigation of corruption under President Chun's government, which resigned after rioting over the death.

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WORLD ROUNDUP

Castro rejects glasnost in Cuba

Havana - President Castro has issued what amounts to an outright rejection of the application of Soviet *glasnost* and *perestroika* in Cuba (Alan Tomlinson writes).

In a televised speech from a mass rally in the city of Santiago de Cuba, he spoke of the need for a strong Communist Party and a clear ideology for the development of socialism. He also cited Cuba's close proximity to an antagonistic United States as another reason why there would be no openness or political restructuring.

The official media in Cuba have been extremely cautious in reporting *glasnost* and *perestroika* but the words, and their significance, are well understood here. However, President Castro used neither expression in his three-hour speech, while making it abundantly clear that Cuba would not be following the Soviet example.

Grosz meets Reagan

Washington - Mr Karoly Grosz, the first Hungarian communist leader to visit the United States, yesterday held talks with President Reagan on East-West relations, arms control, and planned reforms in his country (Mohsin Ali writes).

With a hard currency debt of more than \$11 billion (£6.4 billion), Hungary is pressing for better trade relations with the United States. Mr Grosz told Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, of Hungary's wish to encourage more American investment to restructure his country's ailing economy. Leading article, page 13

Dissident in Ethiopia

Nairobi - Mr Paruir Airikyian, the Armenian dissident expelled from the Soviet Union after spending four months in jail in Yerevan for briefing Western journalists about the Nagorno-Karabakh dispute, has arrived in Ethiopia and is arranging his resettlement in the United States, according to the US Embassy in Addis Ababa (Andrew Buckcoke writes).

Mr Airikyian was flown to Ethiopia, the Soviet Union's leading ally in Africa, in the company of four guards. He is reportedly staying with members of the small Armenian community in Addis Ababa, and is in good health.

All President's men

Paris - In a flurry of changes before the French start their summer holiday, the Government appointed M Pierre Verbrugghe Prefect of Paris and M Jacques Fournet head of the police intelligence network (Philip Jacobson writes).

Both of the key posts allocated yesterday went to men considered to be close to President Mitterrand. A sweeping administrative reshuffle at the state-controlled Union des Assurances de Paris also brought the appointment of another Socialist supporter, M Jean Peyrelevade, as president of the country's largest insurance operation.

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Time and the river fail to cure Colombia's ills

In Gabriel García Márquez's novel, *Love in the Time of Cholera*, the magnificent Magdalena River winds through his native Colombia in the setting for a declaration of eternal love — and the dumping place for the corpses of thousands killed in sectarian political violence.

The book, the English translation of which has just been published in Britain, spans 60 years from the 1870s to 1930s. But with Church-sponsored talks scheduled here tomorrow to try to revive a stalled "national dialogue" to halt spiralling civil conflict, it is clear that the plague of violence that has long characterized Colombian history has still not run its course.

Today, as bullet-riddled and machete-backed bodies are again found floating in the Magdalena and other rivers, the jungles of a country twice the size of France, Dr Alfredo Vázquez Carrizosa, chairman of the nation's human rights committee, is reminded of a line from another story by the Nobel laureate: "Here they're even killing the dead!"

The book *Love in the Time of Cholera* predates *Love in the Time of Cholera* in the chronology of García Márquez's literature, but post-dates it in Colombian history. While *Cholera* features a turn-of-the-century civil war in which an estimated 130,000 perished, *The Bad Hour* is set during a subsequent, even more terrible, sectarian conflict witnessed by the author. Aply called *La Violencia*, it erupted in 1948 and raged for a decade, and 300,000 were dead by the time it blew itself out.

The author, long resident in Mexico, is not on hand to chronicle what many Colombians today fear may be the onset of a new *Violencia*, even more senseless and bloody than the original. It is the product this time not of the old Liberal

Colombians begin another round of negotiations tomorrow in an effort to revive a stalled national dialogue and avert the onset of a new round of bloody violence. In Bogotá, Geoffrey Matthews examines the history of bloodshed which, fuelled by drugs barons and reactionary forces, threatens to spill over its borders.

Conservative enemies but of an explosive "dirty war" stoked both by reactionary forces opposed to a delicate opening-up of the battered democracy and the destructive activities of the Medellín drug cabal which controls 80 per cent of the world's booming cocaine business.

Unlike the first *Violencia*, which other countries viewed as strictly domestic, the current strife is provoking mounting concern among Colombia's neighbours.

"What is happening in Colombia is shocking... truly dramatic; it's in a virtual state of war and, as a Latin American, I have to be alarmed by the lamentable situation there," says Señor Carlos Andrés Pérez, the former Venezuelan President, who is expected to return to power at elections in December. He is worried that he could inherit a crisis of violence increasingly spilling over the frontier after a series of incursions by Colombian guerrillas.

Venezuela has also inevitably been sucked into the drugs-trafficking racket by the Medellín cartel, which finances many of the subversives.

In any other South American country, but Colombia current statistics would suggest a nation at war.

In the first five months of this year there were 1,585 deaths from political violence — almost 400 more than throughout 1987. Of these, 428 were left-wing guerrillas, soldiers and police killed in combat. The other 1,157 were victims of political assassinations largely attributed to some 140 death squads of the

extreme right, which is widely suspected of links both to elements in the military and the drug mafia. In a series of 22 particularly horrifying and unresolved massacres in widely disparate regions, 231 peasants — men, women, children, babes-in-arms — have been slaughtered.

These figures are even more shocking when considered in the context of what Amnesty International has categorized as the world's highest murder rate for a country "not at war". There were 14,000 recorded murders in 1986, which in a population of 28 million gave a ratio of one killing per 2,000 people, with murder the principal cause of death for males aged between 15 and 44.

The homicide rate may be underestimated by as much as 25 per cent and has rocketed over the last two years. While endemic street crime, which has long made Colombian cities the most insecure on the continent, is still the main cause of murder, political assassinations have been accelerating.

Meanwhile, clashes between the military and guerrillas occur daily, and an escalating gang war for supremacy of the cocaine business rages between the Medellín cartel in the nation's second biggest city, from which it takes its name, and a rival cartel in the third city, Cali.

Señor Jorge Child, an economist who has received death threats from the far right, laments that "we are no longer advancing from the third to the second world but retreating to the fourth of tribalism and cannibalism".

Even before it became the nerve centre



Gabriel García Márquez: The chronicler of love and death. Of the cocaine trade, Colombia was a uniquely violent country. But Señor Child, a fierce critic of the political establishment, believes the violence has been inflamed by both the cocaine racketeers and a new emergent bourgeoisie, enriched by businesses financed by "hot money".

Reflecting bitterness over the international stigma suffered by Colombia because of the racketeering, particularly in the United States, Señor Child notes with savage sarcasm that, of course, "the structure of capitalist drug-consuming society has nothing to do with this problem, because it's all about a new 'syphilis' exported and imposed by Third World devils on unpolluted and pure Western industrial society".

The paradox is that Colombia regards itself as — and in many ways is — a highly

civilized country, which boasts the most dynamic economy in Latin America. The economy grew by 5 per cent in 1987 and is expected to increase by slightly less this year. Injections of *narcodollars* have certainly helped, but the long-term health of the national economy is due more to prudent fiscal management by successive governments.

Yet the economic growth is increasingly imperilled by the lunatic actions of guerrilla groups — long disowned by the mainstream left — on the nation's oil industry, agriculture and coffee sector.

Curiously the events leading up to tomorrow's "peace summit" in the apostolic nunciature here provide a perfect synopsis of Colombia's violent history. The talks were agreed as a precondition for the release last week of the Conservative Party's most formidable intellectual, Dr Álvaro Gómez, who had been kidnapped by the subversive April 19 Movement (M19) and held for 53 days in a "people's prison" somewhere in Bogotá. Dr Gómez, himself twice a presidential candidate, is the son of the Conservative President widely blamed for stirring up the original *Violencia* of the 1950s.

M19, the most theatrical and publicity-conscious of Colombia's guerrilla groups, lost all credibility by sabotaging the previous government's bold peace initiative during its bloody siege of the Palace of Justice in Bogotá in 1985. It has never been proved, but is widely suspected, that M19's action was instigated by the drug mafia in its campaign against a then operative extradition treaty with the US.

As it did with the Panama negotiations between M19 and the Church, Conservative and civic leaders, the beleaguered Government of President Barco is expected to sideline tomorrow's talks by

arguing that constitutional law cannot be held hostage. However, non-Cabinet members of the ruling Liberal Party are expected to attend. The armed forces remain implacably opposed to the talks, arguing that the previous government's peace efforts (which they played their own part in undermining) allowed the guerrillas to strengthen their ranks and rearm. It is a measure of M19's naivety that in kidnapping Dr Gómez it sought to enlist military support in a "war against the oligarchy".

Even critics on the left credit President Barco with courage in restoring the country to a full pluralistic form of democracy after a long period of coalition rule designed to heal the sectarian wounds of the past, and for allowing the first free elections of mayors, which have brought the left, in the form of the socialist Union Patriótica, into the political mainstream. Yet the Union has suffered the worst of the death squads' murderous violence. There has also been little progress in Señor Barco's pledge to eradicate "abject poverty" and forge agrarian reform, no real attempt to bring maverick elements of the military to book for human rights violations, and no movement on restoring the justice system that has been terrorized by the drug barons.

Will tomorrow's talks achieve anything? Probably not. Colombia seems destined to collapse into a new bout of its traditional plague. When *Love in the Time of Cholera* was first published here in 1985, a reviewer noted that "what runs through the love stories of the novel is the history of Colombia, which is the story of the destruction of Colombia by Colombians". The final chapter of that story has still to be written. *Love in the Time of Cholera* (Jonathan Cape, £11.95).

Hayden replies to critics as he gets Governor-General's post

From Christopher Morris, Sydney

Mr Bill Hayden, the Foreign Minister, is to become Australia's next Governor-General.

The Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, speaking outside Parliament House in Canberra, said he was confident there would be no objections from Buckingham Palace for his choice as the Queen's representative in Australia.

Mr Hawke, who is understood to have formally sought the Queen's approval of Mr Hayden, said: "I am confident there will be no objections. I know the Palace well."

Although Mr Hayden, aged 59, has still to announce his acceptance, it is widely regarded as a formality since he has already had talks with the Governor-General's official secretary and asked him to stay on for another year.

The choice of Mr Hayden has been a matter of considerable political controversy in which the leader of the National Party, Mr Ian Sinclair, has criticized the sui-

ability of the Foreign Minister's wife, Dallas, for the position of Governor-General's wife.

Stung by this criticism, Mr Hayden appeared on national television to end public confusion and speculation about what exactly Mrs Hayden had done to arouse this kind of controversy.

He spoke frankly about a shoplifting incident involving his wife in January last year which, he said, had been the result of a menopausal condition for which she was receiving a course of treatment. He firmly rejected suggestions that his wife had not been charged because of her position.

He went on: "I think you will find that there are many women with the menopause who face these sorts of problems — a sort of cry for attention and help which, I suspect, in its own way is a pretty severe indictment of me. I think we men don't

properly understand women at certain difficult periods of their life. Menopause is one. Sometimes child bearing is one.

"I think we men have to understand women much better, understand the crises they go through, understand the support they need."

Mr Hawke yesterday paid tribute to Mr Hayden especially for discussing the health problems of his wife on television.

"Given the amount of speculation — including most objectionable comments that emanated from some quarters of the opposition — it was appropriate for Mr Hayden to address this issue," he said. "I think that Mr Hayden did this with very great dignity."

Security alert: Four days before the start of Mrs Thatcher's official visit to Australia a security alert has been ordered after a raid on an army base in which large quantities of

explosives were stolen. The raid at the army supply depot at Denman follows the recent theft in the same area of police uniforms and anti-riot equipment from a prison and police station.

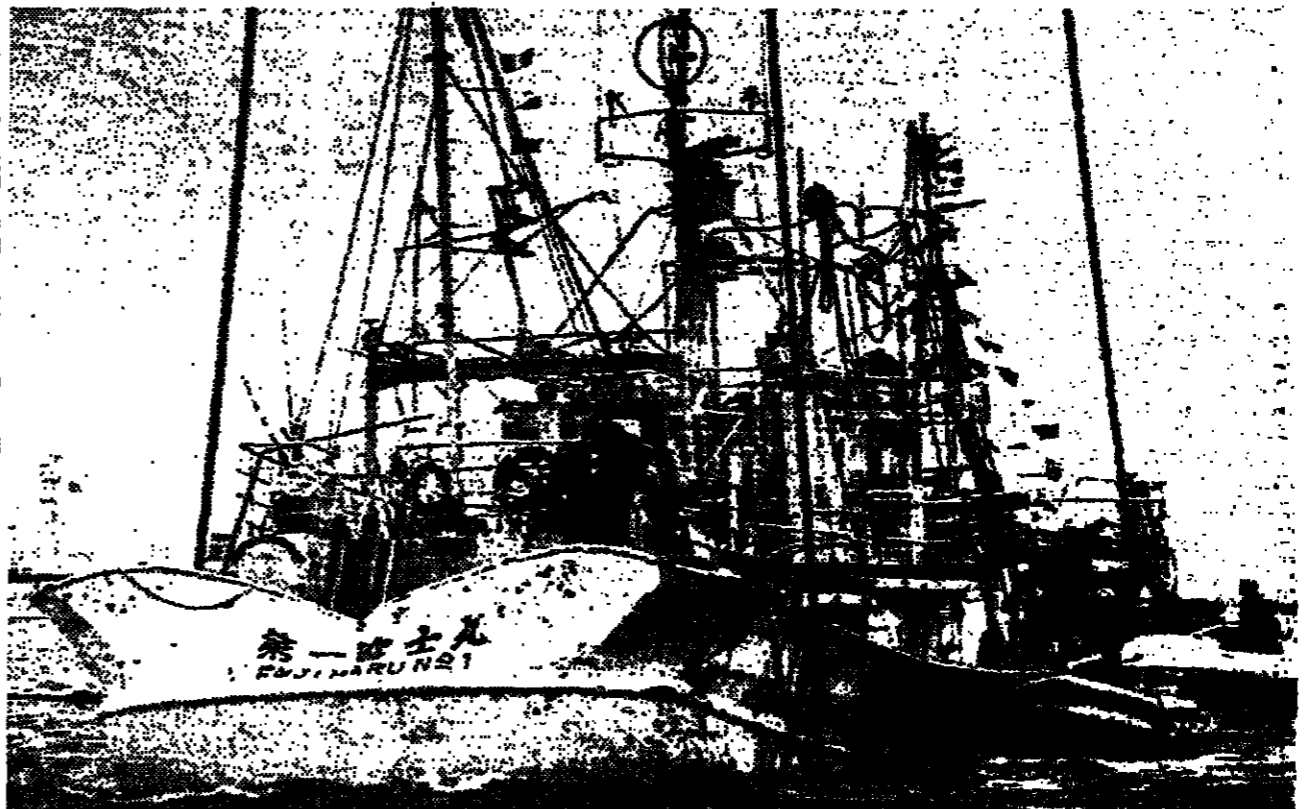
The robberies have been selective and so professional that senior detectives of the New South Wales Force fear they are the work of an international terrorist group.

Special Branch officers responsible for the security of visiting heads of state and political leaders have been placed on full alert.

Mrs Thatcher is making a five-day official visit to Australia in which she will go to five cities — Perth, Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane.

British authorities in Australia are so worried about Mrs Thatcher's safety that exact details of the Prime Minister's itinerary are not being disclosed until the last minute.

Japanese salvage submarine's victim



The chartered fishing boat, Fuji Maru No 1, being raised by a salvage crane. The boat sank after colliding with a Japanese submarine near the mouth of Tokyo Bay on Saturday. Yesterday's salvage and the discovery of 20 more bodies in the wreck increased the death toll to 29 of the 48 people — mainly members of a company fishing club — who were on board.

Defences in Kabul reinforced

Ismaahad (Rester) — Soviet and Afghan forces are strengthening Kabul's eastern and southern defences after one of the biggest rocket barrages of the nine-year war, Western diplomatic sources said.

There was no sign that Moscow was sending more troops into the Afghan capital, but reports from Kabul spoke of new military posts south of the city and an increased number of patrols and checkpoints. Kabul was battered last week by 170 rockets fired by Mujahidin guerrillas.

Bus plunge

Dhaka — Twenty people were killed and six others seriously injured when a bus carrying holidaymakers plunged off a bridge 25 miles north of here during a monsoon downpour and plunged into a ditch, Bangladesh police said.

Record safe

An Italian attempt on the transatlantic powerboat record, held by Mr Richard Branson, the British entrepreneur, was abandoned because of an engine fault less than a day after a try by an American millionaire failed.

Beach killing

Marseilles (Rester) — A Frenchman, aged 30, was shot and fatally wounded on a crowded beach at the resort of La Clotat, the second killing, linked by police to gangland feuding in 24 hours.

Appeal fails

Kuala Lumpur (Rester) — A Malaysian High Court rejected an appeal by the leading opposition politician Mr Karpal Singh against a two-year detention order.

Rebel ambush

Colombo — Two Sri Lankan soldiers were killed and another injured when Tamil Tiger rebels ambushed a route-clearing party in Trincomalee district.

Soviet fund

Moscow (AP) — A bank account has been opened here for public donations to build a memorial to Stalin's victims, Tass reported.

Senate hearings

Meese accused of Wonderland world

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Mr Edwin Meese, the outgoing US Attorney General, has been the target of an unusually strong attack from two former senior aides, with one of them describing the Justice Department under Mr Meese as "a world of Alice in Wonderland".

Mr Arnold Burns, a former Deputy Attorney General, in an extraordinary three-hour appearance before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, gave a "flavour of what life was like in the Department of Justice" under Mr Meese.

"It was a world of Alice in Wonderland and illusion. A world in which up was down and down was up, in was out and out was in, happy was sad and sad was happy, rain was sunshine and sunshine was rain, hot was cold and cold was hot."

For the first time Mr Burns and Mr William Weld, a former Assistant Attorney General, gave publicly the reasons for their sudden resignations on March 29.

Their testimony came a day after Mr Meese had publicly blamed them for prompting the investigation into his conduct by Mr James McKay, the independent counsel, by botching the Justice Department's preliminary enquiry.

Mr Burns and Mr Weld said that they had resigned together because they believed that Mr Meese's business relationships with his close friend Mr Robert Wallach were a conflict of interest under federal law.

"I could not permit my silence and inaction to be construed as condonation of what was going on," Mr Burns said. He and Mr Weld claimed that Mr Meese's problems hurt morale at the Justice Department, but Mr Meese has denied their accusations.

The two men met President Reagan at the White House before submitting their resignations and told him that they believed there was sufficient evidence to indict Mr Meese.

"The President simply did not believe their charges and did not give them credit... He heard out their story and said he still has confidence in Ed Meese," the White House spokesman, Mr Martin Fitzwater, said. "I guess they didn't make a very good case."

Mr Patrick Korten, the Justice Department spokesman, rejected the criticism by Mr Burns and Mr Weld and said that he never saw any evidence that Mr Burns had these concerns while he was at the Justice Department.

The House of Representatives' ethics committee unanimously named Mr Richard Pfaenzer, a leading Chicago lawyer, as its special outside counsel to lead an investigation into the alleged financial deals of Mr Jim Wright, the Democratic Speaker of the House.

Mr Wright has been accused of financial activities appearing to conflict with House ethical standards. But he has strongly denied the charges. He has said that the allegations, made by a group of Republicans led by Mr Newt Gingrich of Georgia, were politically motivated.

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Army settles scores with its critics

Slovene anger erupts after journalists are sent to jail

From Richard Bassett, Ljubljana

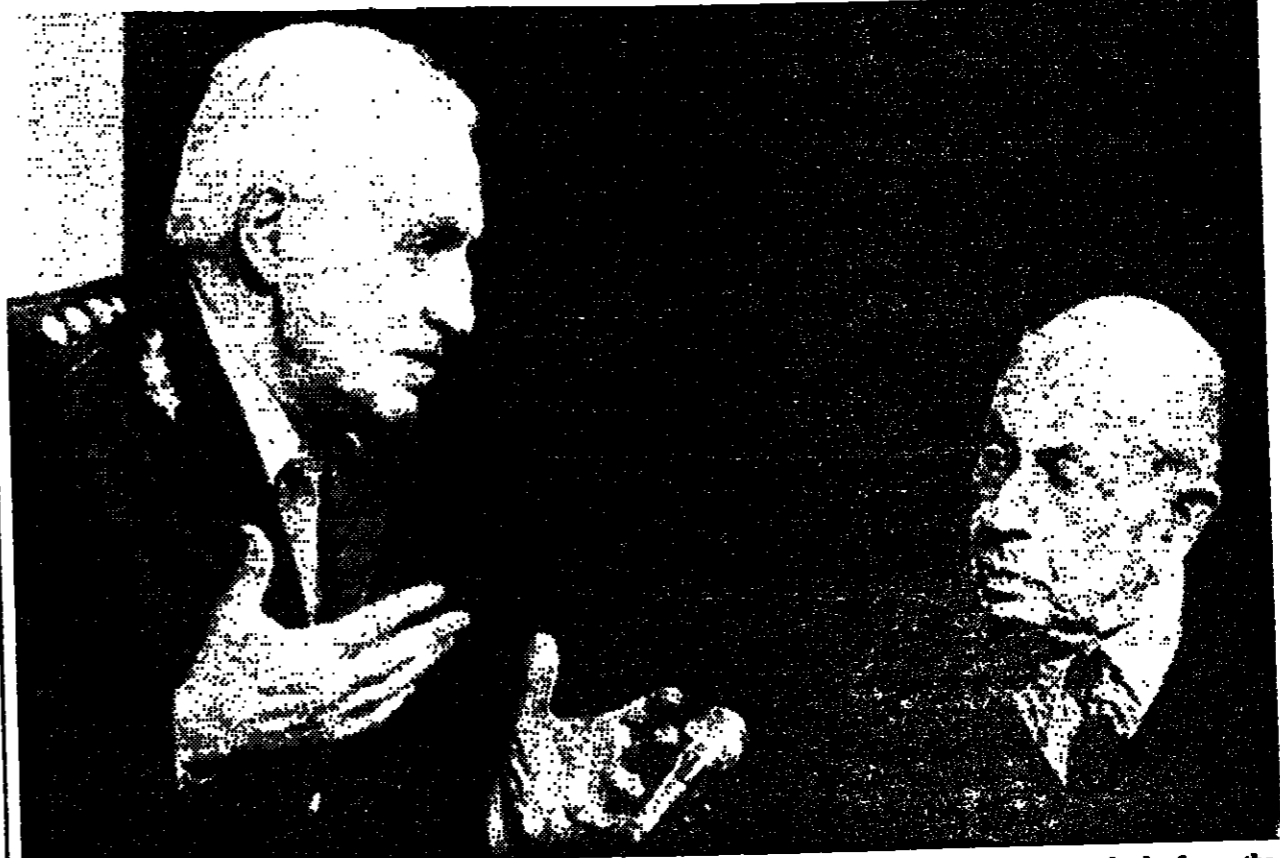
After two months of trial in secret, a military court in Ljubljana yesterday sentenced four young Slovenes to terms of up to four years' imprisonment for possession of classified military documents.

Janez Jansa and Franc Zavrt, two journalists on the Slovene youth magazine Mladina, were each sentenced to one and a half years' imprisonment. Another Mladina journalist, David Tasic, was sentenced to five months, and a Yugoslav Army sergeant, Ivan Borstner, was given a four-year sentence.

accused, Jansa and Tasic, if found guilty and sentenced to imprisonment should be released "as soon as possible". However, the Committee for Human Rights in Slovenia is less than optimistic. After two years of verbal skirmishing with the pacifist Mladina magazine, the Yugoslav Army has made its point.

But therein lay the seeds of its present conflict with the old guard in politics and the armed forces. In particular, the old guard resented the support given by Mladina for conscientious objection as well as its vivid investigative reporting of the position of the Yugoslav Army in society.

Galtieri fights Falklands sentence



General Leopoldo Galtieri, left, the former President of Argentina, conferring with one of his lawyers in a Buenos Aires civilian court where he was appealing against a jail sentence imposed by a military tribunal for incompetence in the Falklands War.

General Galtieri looked tired and in poor physical condition as he and the other five defendants, all uniformed, listened to the prosecutor.

The prosecutor also cited a military document to argue that the commanders did not plan for a British attack. He said that the commanders had anticipated only two scenarios, both incorrect: that Britain would not attack, or that the United States would help Argentina, or at least remain neutral.

Cambodian peace talks

Sihanouk steps in with a scheme for coalition rule

By Our Foreign Staff

Prince Norodom Sihanouk upstaged the informal Cambodian peace talks at Bogor, Indonesia, yesterday with his own plan to settle the nation's civil war.

Prince Sihanouk's plan lacked specific details. He appeared to acknowledge that the three-member coalition managed to stick together because they hated Hanoi only slightly more than each other.

There was no immediate comment from the factions to the plan, which Prince Sihanouk said had no better than a 50-50 chance of being accepted. Representatives of the four groups met privately with him before returning to Bogor.

Leader casts chill on Burma reform

By Anatol Lieven

Burma's new party leader, U Sein Lwin, has been elected state President by a special Parliament, Burmese radio reported yesterday. The Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, U Tun Tin, was elected Prime Minister.

Western analysts say they are baffled by the events of the past few days, and Rangoon itself is full of rumours. Some Burmese say that General Ne Win's wishes for reform were rejected by his party in favour of U Sein Lwin's hard line.

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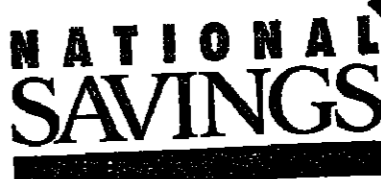
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PARLIAMENT

Hattersley makes 'National Front' jibe at Renton

A Government minister was accused by Mr Roy Hattersley of raising the spectre of Britain being flooded by immigrants...

IMMIGRANTS

the rate of one a fortnight. It will reduce 'mass immigration' by two a month.

Later in the debate, Mr Antony Marlow (Northampton North, C) said that society, in a negation of democracy, had had its identity threatened by a massive invasion of tribes and cultures that it neither would nor supported.

Opening the debate, Mr Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, moved a motion disapproving the Government's changes in immigration rules.

He said that these changes were being opposed because of the hardship and suffering they would cause and because they were part of the Government's strategy on race and immigration.

Mr Timothy Renton, the Minister of State, had twice on radio today, referred to 1,000 million potential immigrants on the Indian subcontinent. He had referred also to the risk of Britain being flooded by immigrants.

"The opinions of the National Front are not made any less odious by being expressed in the style of Bertie Wooster."

The paragraph of the new rule prohibiting the entry of second wives was a measure geared specifically to the customs of a small group of Muslim men at present lawfully in the United Kingdom.

"Each year that provision will prevent 25 women from entering this country - 25 out of the 1,000 million potential immigrants with which the Minister of State tried to make our flesh creep this morning. This provision will stem the flood at

Office intended that that should be so.

When he had been discussing the rule with the Home Secretary, the supervising Under Secretary, a civil servant, also present had been terribly frank. He had said that it was intended to slow down the rate of entry.

The Home Secretary had supported his official saying: "The people out there would not understand if too many husbands came in."

It was assumed that the people out there were as prejudiced as the average Conservative backbencher. In doubt, some were. "The rest are being encouraged to develop prejudices by the constant representation of the black and Asian British as a 'problem' and a 'threat'."

Mr Timothy Renton said that Mr Hattersley had supported quotas during the second reading debate last November. Eight months had passed. What did he think was an appropriate quota?

Mr Hattersley said that the fact of marriage ought to be the qualification for entering this country. The question of quota did not arise. It was a right.

There was no quota for Europeans coming into this country from the EEC. The question only came to mind to Mr Renton when it was a black or brown quota.

The Order removed the right of British citizens to present themselves at Heathrow and Dover and to request entry into their own country unless they provided immediately proof-positive of their nationality.

It would not be the white South African patriots who were turned back, but the Muslim youth born in Birmingham and taken as a child to Pakistan. It would be the girl born here who went to live with her grandmother in Jamaica.

As a final footnote to this shabby little Order, it was no



Sir Nicholas Laird, Conservative MP for Perth and Kinross and Laird of Fordell, leaving Buckingham Palace yesterday after receiving the insignia of a Knight Bachelor. He said that the Queen had told him he looked splendid

coincidence that the Government had announced yesterday its acceptance of DNA testing, so-called genetic fingerprinting. He understood that it had been available in the Home Office since last autumn. Acceptance of the test had been held back until other barriers had been erected.

The first was the increase in fee from £50 a family to £60 a person. The second was the abolition of automatic rights for men who had lived here since 1973. That made today's proposal all the more tawdry and all the more squalid. The Opposition would vote against it.

Mr Marlow said the proposals had to be seen against a background of immigration policies over the last generation - against a background of ever-increasing availability of access to cheap international travel, of an ever-increasing awareness of "a cornucopia of wealth which exists in the Western world for those in the Third World who can contrive to gain entry".

Gaelic minister defeats the Speaker

The House of Commons turned briefly to the Gaelic tongue, after Mr Charles Kennedy (Ross, Cromarty and Sutherland) had asked, in English, what representations had been received in favour of increased Gaelic-language programmes on television in Scotland.

Mr Michael Forsyth, Under Secretary of State, Scottish Office, replied in Gaelic.

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) said that he did not understand, and Mr Forsyth then said in English: "In recent years a number of representations have been received from MPs, local authorities and organizations representing the Gaelic community."

The Secretary of State and I recognize the contribution which the media can make to the preservation of the Gaelic language and we have constantly encouraged the broadcasting authorities to provide a reasonable range of Gaelic programmes.

Mr Kennedy: I thank the minister for his sterling efforts and assure him that he does not sound any more acceptable to this House in Gaelic (laughter).

He asked that Gaelic should get the same kind of broadcasting support as Welsh did in Wales.

Mr Forsyth said that the BBC and independent television companies were planning to increase the time available for broadcasting.

enfranchisement of the invaders; a society undermined by the perverted idealism, the anti-racist act of an unprincipled, vote-grabbing Labour Party.

He wished the rules had gone a bit further. There was a lot of talk, particularly from Labour, about the reunification of families - a wholly benign objective, which he supported. But if one family member had left his native land for Britain, "we do prevent his returning to the bosom of his family".

The illegal acquisition of abode here was theft, and thieves were criminals.

There was pressure for a system of identity cards to help the fight against crime. If that

Hell's Angels receive a visit

A ministerial visit this month to the Hell's Angels' Tenth Customs Base Show in Kent has led to the hope of a charity football match between Hell's Angels and MPs.

Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary for Transport, said in a written reply that he had enjoyed the show and the opportunity to talk to Dr Max Harris and other Hell's Angels who had organized the event.

Congratulating the Angels on raising £2 for charity from every person attending the show, he said that he had written to Dr Harris. We clearly share much common ground on motor-cycle safety even if we don't see eye to eye on all other areas.

He had then suggested that Dr Harris should write to Mr David Evans MP, chairman of Luton Town Football Club, about a charity match against MPs.

Dr Harris promised to follow up the idea of a football match, which appealed to him.

Fuel Bill introduced

Millions of people feared the coming winter and thousands would die, not on the sick slopes, but because the Government had "gotten their heads".

The claim was made by Mr John Hughes (Coventry North East, Lab) (below) when successfully seeking leave, under the 10-minute rule procedure, to bring in a Bill to require the provision of essential fuel and energy to every home.

He said that millions of people were forced to live in



Grant to Scottish councils 'higher than inflation rate'

Central government support for Scottish local authorities in 1989-90 is to be £2,500 million. Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, announced in a Commons statement on the revenue-support grant settlement. This was £129.5 million, or 5.5 per cent more than the settlement for the current year.

The grant, he said, had been increased by more than the rate of inflation. Part of it took into account the extra costs involved in the collection of the community charge.

The announcement was immediately condemned by Mr Donald Dewar, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland, as totally inadequate. He said that there would be further cuts in services or an increase in the average poll tax to about £300 per person.

Mr Rifkind, in his statement, said that provision for local authority current expenditure in Scotland in 1989-90 would be £3,930 million, which was 3 per cent more than provision for the current year and £240 million

SCOTLAND

over provision for 1989-90 as set out in the public expenditure White Paper.

The figure was also 4.6 per cent above authorities' adjusted budgets for 1988-89. It included full provision for the extra administrative costs of operating the community charge, as estimated by the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (Cosla).

He proposed that aggregate Exchequer grant should be set at £2,500 million. That was £129.5 million, or 5.5 per cent more than the settlement allowed for this year. "Local authorities in Scotland, and local taxpayers, should accordingly find this a very satisfactory settlement."

In reaching it he had taken into account the views which Cosla had expressed. The settlement was based on authorities' own budgets for the present year.

"Grant has been increased by more than the rate of inflation. If authorities do not increase their real level of spending next year, community charges

the Government's assessment of local government spending before penalty, to under 55 per cent in 1989-90?

Had the grant percentage figure been maintained at last year's level, there would be an extra £30 million of grant available to local authorities.

Mr Rifkind had been hopelessly complacent about the implications of the settlement on the poll tax. There would be further cuts in services or, probably, an increase of about £30 a head on the average individual poll tax.

Unless there was a big cut in services offered, often to needy groups, it looked as though the individual poll tax in Scotland would be about £300 and not the £250 which ministers had been talking about.

There was no reason to welcome the new revenue-support grant because, judging from the announcement, it represented another chapter in the all-too-familiar and dreary story.

The minister should contem-

plate the damage done by the sustained cuts in the settlement which had seen the grant percentage fall for the past eight years from 68.5 per cent to the present miserable level, with a cumulative loss of £3,000 million to the people of Scotland.

Mr Rifkind said that the Opposition's attempts to try to identify bad news from good was becoming increasingly unconvincing.

Provision was up 4.6 per cent, but what was more important to local authorities was that the provision was indicative of what the Government felt they ought to spend.

It was more important that the level of grant was up 5.5 per cent. The Convention of Scottish Local Authorities had estimated that the community charge administration costs would be £25 million in the current year and next year. That would be fully accommodated in the settlement.

The cash local authorities would receive would be more than the rate of inflation and, in

addition, because grant penalties no longer applied, every penny of grant that went to local authorities would remain with them.

With regard to community charge levels, he could not understand the basis of Mr Dewar's prediction.

The Labour Party had their own reasons for scaremongering on the issue, but, as indicated in the original statement, unless local authorities chose to increase their real spending, the community charge should be set at the levels which the Government had illustrated for this year.

Sir Hector Monro (Dumfries, C) said that the additional money made available to local authorities should stop them criticizing the Government. Local authorities would be able to increase expenditure while maintaining a level of community charge at no more than 5 per cent above the current rate.

Mr Rifkind said that that was substantially correct. The level of community charge varied

from locality to locality. Only if local authorities chose to increase their real level of spending would it be necessary for an additional burden to fall on the community charge. That would produce accountability between local authorities and their communities.

If communities wished to have additional services they would have to contribute towards the cost.

Mr Archie Kirkwood, SLD spokesman on Scotland, asked for confirmation that any pay awards above 4.6 per cent in 1988-89 would require either additions to the poll tax or decreases in the level of service.

Mr Rifkind said that he hoped that local authorities would take that into account.

If they chose to increase teachers' salaries by more than the Government recommended and by more than was being applied elsewhere, that would be an additional burden to the local community. It was something that would have to be brought home to them.



Mr Ian Stewart, the new Minister of State, Northern Ireland (right), greeting Mr Gerry Collins, the Irish Republic's Justice Minister, who was in London yesterday for a meeting of the Anglo-Irish Inter-governmental Conference. Between them are Mr Brian Lenihan (left), the Irish Foreign Affairs Minister, and Mr Tom King, Secretary of State

Poll tax Bill completes its passage

The following report from the Lords appeared in later editions yesterday.

The Local Government Finance Bill, replacing rates with the community charge, finished its passage through Parliament after peers accepted the decision of the Commons to reject two of their amendments.

Peers backed down from a constitutional dispute with MPs when debating the Commons reasons for reversing the amendments. The Commons had ruled that these infringed the financial privilege of the elected House. The amendments were to give further relief to student nurses and to those who are both poor and disabled.

The Bill cleared the Lords without further votes or amendments. It is due to receive Royal Assent this week.

The Earl of Caithness, Minister of State for the Environment, said that the Government will publish regulations in the autumn setting out the community charge to be levied on nurses. When Project 2000 is implemented, student nurses would receive bursaries instead of salaries and so would receive 80 per cent rebates, like other students.

Lady Robson (SLD) spoke to her amendment, which she did not move to reverse the Government to bring in interim arrangements for student nurses. But several peers argued that it was unconstitutional to try to change the Government's amendment.

Lord Halskham of St Marylebone (C), the former Lord Chancellor, said that he had warned about the constitutional issues at an earlier stage of the Bill. He was now saying "I told you so".

Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, leader of the SLD peers, said that it appeared to him that the Commons used the claim of privilege when it did not like an amendment carried by the Lords. If they liked the amendment then they did not use it.

Viscount Tonyandy (Ind), former Speaker, said that the Commons was right to be jealous of its privileges.

Viscount Whitlaw (C), former Leader of the Lords, said that peers had made important changes to the Bill and the Commons and the Government had accepted them. But there came a moment when it was right for the Lords to bow to the privileges and views of the Commons.

When asking the Lords to accept the Commons reversal of an amendment to give further relief to disabled, poor people,

the Earl of Caithness said that those living in high-spending areas would have to pay a small amount while those in low-spending areas would have a bonus. That ensured accountability.

Lord McIntosh of Haringey, chief Opposition environment spokesman in the Lords, said that the Opposition had tabled a motion regretting that the Government was using the ground of Commons financial privilege to block the amendments as a political rather than a constitutional protest.

In the past, the Commons had generally waived its privilege on local rates issues. But a change had taken place during the passage of the Bill. A greater part of local government finance would now be paid from central funds and so Commons financial privilege could be evoked.

Debate on Opposition motion

Plans to beat air congestion

The following report of a Commons debate on an Opposition motion critical of Government transport policies appeared in later editions yesterday.

The Government had a majority of 61 at the end of the debate. Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, rejected criticism of the Government's role in the recent congestion at airports and pointed to difficulties facing operators.

Air space, he said, was a finite resource, but he believed that much better use should be made of it and there must be better co-ordination between air traffic control authorities over the whole of Europe.

That was something which he would be devoting much attention in the next few weeks. There were several things that could not be done. They could

not sort out other countries' strikes.

They must not subject people living near airports to a night flight free-for-all. They could not compromise on safety. Within those constraints, they had been doing everything possible to alleviate congestion.

It was not purely or even primarily a British problem. It was a European problem and they must find European solutions.

The Government and the Civil Aviation Authority were working together to find practical solutions.

Earlier, Mr Robert Hughes, chief Opposition spokesman on transport, moving the Opposition motion condemning the Government's "irresponsible" transport policies, which had failed the travelling public and

"put lives at risk", said that Labour was concerned about the shortcomings of the Government in relation to air traffic control and holiday traffic.

The reason why flow control had been introduced was because of a state of near-paralysis. The CAA and the Government had bungled the whole issue. We have to transfer some of the space now reserved to military aircraft to civil use. That would greatly ease the problem.

Mr Peter Fry (Wellingborough, C) said that, given the kind of congestion experienced in the summer peak period, the scheduling of some airlines had gone beyond optimism and had verged on the foolhardy.

The Opposition motion was rejected by 262 votes to 201.

Steel mill assurance

There was no economic reason to consider the closure of the hot strip mill at Ravenscraig, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, said at questions.

He would give no guarantee on the mill's prospects, the matter being outside his responsibilities.

Mr Maria Fyfe (Glasgow, Marhill, Lab) asked what calculations had been made of non-steel jobs that would be lost if Ravenscraig closed.

Mr Rifkind: There is not the slightest prospect of Ravenscraig closing, certainly not in the near future (Labour protest); indeed, I believe, not in the longer term as well.

These questions are purely hypothetical.

War medals ban to stay in force

The courage of soldiers massacred at Wormhoudt during the 1940 campaign in Northern Europe will not be recognized by the posthumous award of medals, Mr Roger Freeman, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, said in a written Commons reply.

Mr Freeman said that in 1946 it had been decided, after awards and medals for battles and operations had been examined in detail, that no further awards should be instituted for the Second World War. The decision had been approved by King George VI and that ruling remained in force.

"There must inevitably have been very many acts of individual bravery which have not been

formally recognized. This does not detract from the bravery shown by the individuals concerned.

"I accept that there will inevitably be a sense of injustice that the great courage and self-sacrifice shown by Captain James Frazer Lynn-Allen, CSM Augustus Jennings and Sergeant Stanley Moore in the face of the brutality of their captors at Wormhoudt in May 1940 was not officially recognized."

The Ministry of Defence would be making all the evidence it had about the massacre available to the relevant authorities in West Germany and, once legal proceedings were concluded, consideration would be given to opening the files for public inspection.

Having built the props shooting the series was a piece of cake.



When LWT shoots a drama series the attention to detail shines through. *Piece of Cake* is about the first of the 'few'. It follows the short lives of World War II fighter pilots in the skies above northern France. To make the series LWT commissioned five original Spitfires and then built six full-size replicas for ground and taxiing shots.

It's this attention to detail that makes LWT drama so successful. In *Wish Me Luck* the young actresses talked to real SOE women, now in their

eighties, before playing their parts. In *London's Burning* the cast were trained as firemen by real firemen, the London Fire Brigade.

Casting is another of LWT's strengths. Our recent major production *Troubles* brought Ian Charleson and Ian Richardson together. Paul Nicholas' comedy pedigree meant he wasn't the

obvious choice for *Bust*, but he returns with a second series this season. Similarly Nigel Havers stepped bravely out of character to become Ralph Gorse, the merciless seducer of *The Chancer* (and the crew stepped bravely onto the dais to receive BAFTA craft awards).

Drama plays an increasingly important part in LWT's schedules. Last year we brought you a few of the best; this autumn's drama starts with the best of the 'few' — *Piece of Cake*.

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SPECTRUM

Javier Pérez de Cuéllar has been a quiet, unspectacular UN Secretary-General. Can he push Iran and Iraq towards peace?

Friend to the world's enemies



Javier Pérez de Cuéllar is a bland, elegant six-footer who likes stamp collecting, writing poetry and playing classical piano. After nearly seven unspectacular years as Secretary-General of the United Nations, this quiet, unassuming Peruvian suddenly finds himself at the centre of world attention as he guides two of the world's most fanatical enemies towards peace. If he succeeds, it will be the outstanding pinnacle of an otherwise competent career. And he will have done much to restore the UN's battered credibility as a global peacemaker.

Colleagues say he is likeable and unpretentious but without dynamism or a cutting edge. He lacks charisma or strong political beliefs — a qualification that has certainly endeared him to the big powers. When, two years ago, he was eased without fuss into a second five-year term, Margaret Thatcher supposedly remarked that he had not caused any trouble first time around. Another observer was more withering in his assessment: "He wouldn't make waves if he fell out of a boat."

But the steady hand at the helm is producing tangible results. Under his gentle stewardship the UN arranged details of the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan. It is being courted to carry out a huge peacekeeping operation in Cambodia and Namibia if current peace negotiations are successful. The success in Afghanistan paved the way for the Secretary-General's role in the Gulf, particularly as he was one of the few interna-

tional figures that Iran would trust. Early next month Pérez de Cuéllar is due to present Morocco, Algeria and the Polisario guerrilla movement with an ambitious plan for the UN to administer the Western Sahara until a referendum is held on the fate of the disputed territory. Later next month he plays host to leaders of the Greek and Turkish communities in Cyprus, relaunching negotiations after a three year hiatus.

"The Reagan-Gorbachov meeting provided the international community with an example of voluntary dialogue," the Secretary-General said. "Suddenly governments have discovered the UN is a good place for dialogue, for solving problems." The change of pace at the UN has been remarkably sudden. Until the recent success in Afghanistan, no UN mediation effort had succeeded since the end of the 1973 Arab-Israeli war.

When Kurt Waldheim stepped down as Secretary-General in 1981, Pérez de Cuéllar did not campaign for his job. The contest over his appointment carried all the suspense and intrigue of a papal election. After 16 ballots in five weeks, the Security Council was locked in a stalemate. Finally he was selected as a compromise. The news was telephoned to him at a beach house outside Lima and he was dumbfounded.

Today he can give the impression of being a reluctant incumbent. He did not actively seek reappointment for another term, having originally declared that he would serve only for the

THE TIMES PROFILE

JAVIER PÉREZ DE CUÉLLAR

initial five years. He was still recovering at the time of his reappointment from quadruple by-pass surgery but decided, as he put it, that he had a moral obligation to continue.

The job of Secretary-General is largely defined by the person who occupies it. Any incumbent has to function in the historical shadow of Dag Hammarskjöld, the Swede who held the post from 1953 until he died in an air crash in Africa in 1961. He developed and expanded the position with his extraordinary energy and lobbying skills.

By contrast Pérez de Cuéllar is frequently accused of not being forceful enough. Certainly, he has never had a major conflict with a member. However, he did upset Israel by calling persistently for the removal of Israeli troops from Lebanon and for convening an international conference under UN auspices to resolve the Middle East conflict. And he annoyed the Soviet Union by despatching a team of experts to investigate charges that Iraq had used chemical weapons against Iran.

Until recently Pérez de Cuéllar had chalked up no measurable achievements, other than negotiating a short-lived partial truce in the Iran-Iraq war in 1984 and coming close to settlements in the 1982 Falklands conflict and the Cyprus problem. That is why his propulsion into the international

spotlight is so important to him: after seven years of patient mediation, in the Gulf War he senses his first big breakthrough.

As a lifelong career diplomat, he has always insisted on "the need for quiet diplomacy. I'll want to be effective. I have to be discreet. I am not running for a Nobel Prize." He is not fond of the social whirl that goes with the job, preferring whenever he can to retreat to his official Sutton Place house in Manhattan to listen to music and read. He is a model of old-world cultivation and charm. His manner is courteous, his humour dry. He likes quiet dinners at home with friends. It is his wife, Marcela, who adds lustre to the social side of his obligations.

Pérez de Cuéllar is descended from Spanish nobility. His father, a prosperous businessman, died when he was four. He learnt French from his governess, and has a particular fondness for French literature. He has written two books, *Recognition of States and Governments and Diplomatic Law*, which are texts at Peru's Diplomatic Academy, where he has served as a professor.

He knows the UN from the inside, having first encountered it as head of his country's delegation in 1971. Waldheim entrusted him with several delicate missions. In 1975 he became the Secretary-General's special representative in Cyprus and four years later Waldheim appointed him Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs.

As a Latin American he was considered a *bona fide* representative of the Third World but at the same time was culturally of Western orientation. "I am a Third World man," he declared, "but first of all I am a representative of 157 countries."

"He is low-keyed all right," one senior UN official remarked. "But maybe that's the way it should be. Maybe he is the right man for the times. The mystique and prestige of the UN in the Dag Hammarskjöld era no longer exists." It is in that context, his advocates argue, that he should be judged. A more forceful or ideologically motivated chief might already have found himself presiding over the disintegration of the organization.

"The Secretary-General cannot be compared to the president of a country," Pérez de Cuéllar declared in defence of his low-key approach. "The Secretary-General has to respond to the demands of 157 countries. Governments and people want concrete results. They don't appreciate 'drop-of-water' progress. I don't complain. This is normal. The Secretary-General should be a constant inspirer."

"Inspiring" is not a word most colleagues would use to describe him. He is often compared to U Thant, the self-effacing Burmese who held the post from 1961 to 1971.

Although once regarded as a source of inspiration, the job has become widely regarded as an overpaid sinecure. The salary is \$200,000 a year, plus expenses.

A senior observer mockingly suggested that the job description could read: "Wanted: A faceless, inarticulate, unimpressive and non-assertive bureaucrat." That way the big powers could be assured of minimal trouble.

Of late, though, such belittling comments have sounded unjustified. General Vernon Walters, the US ambassador to the UN, has been heaping praise on his mediation efforts, claiming that they have renewed the UN's relevance.

Suddenly a flood of journalists has descended on the UN complex on the East River — a sight rarely witnessed in the past decade. The superpowers are watching from the distance. Israel and the Arab world are holding their breath. And as the foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq shuffle in and out of Pérez de Cuéllar's 38th floor office, there seems every chance that, after years of torpor and drift, the United Nations may be rediscovering its true role.

Christopher Thomas

- BIOGRAPHY**
- 1920: Born in Lima, Peru.
 - 1940: Studied law at the Catholic University; became a foreign ministry clerk.
 - 1944: First diplomatic posting — first secretary of the Peruvian Embassy in Paris. Later posted to Britain, Bolivia and Brazil.
 - 1964: Ambassador to Switzerland.
 - 1965: Peru's first Ambassador to Moscow.
 - 1971: Peru's permanent representative to the United Nations.
 - 1975: UN Secretary-General's special representative to Cyprus.
 - Divorced his first wife and remarried.
 - 1977: Peru's Ambassador to Venezuela.
 - 1978: Returned to UN as Under-Secretary-General for special political affairs.
 - 1981: Elected as Secretary-General of UN.

Why are Q, W and X a challenge to the Royal Mint?

There is only one British manufacturing concern which made money last year, will make money next year, and has made money for each of the past 1,100 years? Indeed, its very business is money. It is, of course, the Royal Mint.

The trick question disguises a tough, commercial reality. The people to whom King Alfred the Great gave a licence to coin the stuff declared a trading profit this week for 1987/88 of more than £6 million.

The Royal Mint is more than a government department, run by Civil Servants, with a comfortable monopoly to keep more than 13 billion coins bouncing around the banks, pockets and money-boxes of Britons; it is also a hard-nosed operator in a fiercely competitive inter-

national market, with four Queen's Awards for export.

A security cordon of Fort Knox intensity — staffed from a permanent garrison of 40 Ministry of Defence policemen and women — is flung around every entrance to the otherwise unremarkable-looking foundry at Llantrisant, in the Vale of Glamorgan. Last financial year its production line unobtrusively went about the business of making coins for 65 foreign countries from Algeria to Zimbabwe and, in between, for nations beginning with every letter of the alphabet except Q, W and X.

Only in the coining press room is there an almost overpowering fantasy that one has strayed into El Dorado. Rows of machines, each striking

Countries from A to Z are customers, with just these three exceptions

coins at up to 500 a minute, are currently spewing out Ecuador 10 Sucres, Hong Kong 5 dollars, Jersey £1s and UK 2p. Computerized mechanical tellers count and pack them at the rate of 50 million a week and they are shipped, under massive guard, to the corners of the earth.

The Royal Mint plays such a key role in the Government's determination to set its own

economic example to British industry that earlier this year Tony Garrett, previously international vice-president and UK managing director of Procter and Gamble, was made its chief executive — the first time the post has been filled by other than an established Civil Servant.

Garrett says: "We pay the Ministry of Defence the full cost of our security, sell to the Treasury at home and compete directly in a very tough foreign market."

Despite the political freedom of the Mint — the only prohibited trading partner is South Africa — Garrett wants to see greater distancing from Whitehall. "I would like to reward people according to their performance rather than by their Civil Service grade. And while I would not

want to see the Mint fully privatized, there is no reason why it shouldn't become a PLC, with the Government holding 100 per cent of the equity."

As more countries set up their own mints, the Royal Mint knows that it must look for new areas of expansion. Last October, therefore, it launched Britannia gold bullion coins, nominally worth £100, £50, £25 and £10.

And the future? "The gold bullion coin market is 4½ million ounces of gold. There's a silver bullion market of 27 million ounces..." So will the next coin to go round the world from the Vale of Glamorgan be silver? Garrett's shrug was probably as good as a nod.

William Greaves

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- £250 helps to rear a puppy.
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Triumph or a trick of the eye?

A scientific mystery involving homeopathy, a magician, and water with a "memory" takes a new turn today. *Nature*, the gospel of British science, carries a report from its team of biological ghostbusters about their visit to the laboratories in Paris of Dr Jacques Benveniste, where inexplicable phenomena have been recorded. Benveniste's impassioned rejection of their adverse findings appears side by side with the report.

The dispute has put the French biologist's professional credibility at stake, as well as the reputation of the British journal and its editor, John Maddox. Benveniste's results are dramatic because they appear to confirm the fundamental claims of homeopathy: that tiny particles can have a medical effect even when diluted to vanishing point. That challenges all conventional assumptions about the behaviour of molecules.

John Maddox admits that at least one of Benveniste's tests, made under "blind" conditions under the investigating team's supervision, fitted the Frenchman's theories so exactly that it "baffles" him.

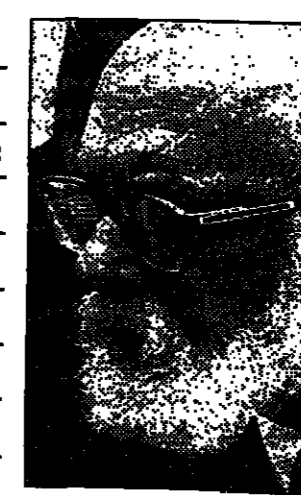
But in still stricter "double blind" tests, there was no sign of the disputed effect at all. There is no suggestion that Benveniste or any of his colleagues intentionally "cooked" the results. But *Nature's* overall conclusion is that the findings lack statistical credibility.

In essence the story turns on the activity of counting small red dots through a microscope. Benveniste, a researcher at the South Paris University's INSERM unit for the study of allergy, had been



Jacques Benveniste

Helped by a conjurer, *Nature* magazine explains today how a French scientist "went wrong" over his homeopathy experiments



James Randi

testing blood cells for their response to a chemical which provokes allergic reaction. Molecules of the antibody cause the cells to "degranulate", or release histamines.

In a long series of experiments, the INSERM team tested the effect of the antibody at weaker and weaker doses. The effect was tested by adding to each specimen a solution which stains intact cells red, but does not affect degranulated ones. By counting the red spots, and comparing their number with those on a control specimen, researchers could tell how many cells had been affected.

At first, the effect of the antibody became steadily fainter each time the dose was made weaker. But at certain low concentrations the effect seemed to give a puzzling surge. Mystifyingly, these surges still occurred even when the dose was so weak that it was statistically almost certain that not a single molecule of the antibody re-

mained in the solution. This seemed to bear out homeopathic claims about the efficacy of dilute doses. Homeopaths also believe that shaking a remedy can be important, and in the INSERM tests the effect appeared only if the specimen was spun in a vortex.

The only possible explanations seemed to be error, fraud or a hitherto unsuspected tendency for water molecules to "remember" molecules that had been in contact with, and pass on their effects. The implications were so far-reaching that Maddox agreed to print Benveniste's report on condition that he would allow *Nature* to investigate his laboratory afterwards.

The week-long visit by "Nature's" team to INSERM was a highly-charged encounter, with both sides brimming with tension and mutual suspicion. "Nature's" three-man team included James "The

Amazing" Randi, an American conjurer, recruited to watch out for possible trickery. His sharp eye had been employed in an earlier study of Uri Geller.

Randi taped the secret codes for the blind-testing to the laboratory ceiling, so that everybody could see whether they were tampered with. He was looking for conscious fraud, but mainly for unintentional error. "As a conjurer, I could see 15 ways to bias the results without sleight of hand or anything like that," he said before his visit to Paris.

"Frankly, it was a bit of a pantomime altogether," says Maddox of their visit. Benveniste speaks with Gallic intensity of blackmail, trickery, libel, deceit and "Salem witch-hunts and McCarthy-like persecutions".

He told me this week that he regarded the Americans Randi and Walter Stewart, Maddox's colleagues on the *Nature* team, as men who are "trying to appear as the Red Adair of

this field, to make a reputation and perhaps a living out of this kind of thing."

The team reports that the laboratory's techniques left open the possibility of accidental contamination in carrying out the delicate procedures. "Blind" testing, designed to exclude unconscious bias, was seldom used.

But the most serious source of confusion lay in a failure to allow for what statisticians call "sampling error". In the laborious work of counting red spots, often faint, human error is bound to creep in. If a researcher misses a few red spots, that would create the illusion that the antibody had been active even if there was none present. If a few red spots are double-counted, that would create the impression of a nonsensical reverse effect.

According to Maddox, the INSERM researchers eagerly recorded results of the first kind as evidence for the controversial effect, and discarded the others as "failures". Thus the evidence was innocently built up.

Benveniste fiercely rejects criticism of his techniques. "There is no lab in the world where such work is routinely done blind, except for occasional checks," he says.

Maddox believes *Nature* was right to publish the original report (which carried a disclaimer). "After studying the reports for nearly two years, our referees could not see what the flaw was. We could have been accused of suppression if we had not gone ahead. I think it was fair to get the matter out into the open."

George Hill

HEALTH

Pots of wishful thinking?

If skin care products contain magical anti-ageing chemicals, should they be classed as drugs - and be subject to the same controls? Heather Kirby reports

Choose your mother carefully... the sort of skin care advice that is too true to be good.

are simply common sense. A spokeswoman at Erno Laszlo, for instance, says it was the only company in America who was not required to clean up its act.

Clinique, too, claims it does not promote a magical formula and simply advises men and women to exfoliate the skin regularly, perhaps once a week when you are young, and daily when you are not so young.

As well as an abundance of wishful thinking, and money, when you buy skin care products today, you need a degree in dermatology. The jargon used is so technical it is incomprehensible to most shoppers.

The question is: are we being blinded by science? Are the claims made for creams which promise to reverse the ageing process and rejuvenate tired skin, true or false?

Greaves, who is a member of the Committee on the Safety of Medicine, is particularly concerned about those products which allegedly halt or reverse the ageing processes of skin.

"Cosmetics are not classified as drugs under the 1968 Medicines Act, therefore apparently potent substances masquerading under this heading escape the controlling influence of licensing procedures, on effectiveness, safety, quality and advertising," he says.

Sally Oppenheim-Barnes, chairman of the National Consumer Council, recently called for flesh labels to warn shoppers if a beauty product contains worrying substances like formaldehyde and for comprehensive labelling on cosmetics to indicate if they contain known allergens.

One of the results of the FDA ruling is that some beauty houses are now boasting they were left alone because the claims they make



'Advertised claims go far beyond what is expected of a cosmetic'

such as "a unique blend of octyl dodecyl sebacate and dipropyl dimethylsiloxane"; they employ pharmacological terms like "collagen", "lipidic" or "intercellular"; they set out to prove the efficacy of a product by showing highly technical illustrations of the skin's structure; or they offer lofty sounding techniques like "immuno-fluorescence" as a back-up.

Marion Kelly, director general of the Cosmetic, Toiletry and Perfumery Association admits it is impossible for her to say whether anti-ageing products are a success or not. "They are not like fluoride in toothpaste, which has been scientifically proved to stop tooth decay. Cosmetic manufacturers only have to list the active ingredients, so there is no way of knowing what is in the preparations. Obviously something can have a potential for bad as well as good, but do claims make a product a medicine? Only surgery will remove dermal wrinkles."

In the United States, Professor John Voorhees of the University of Michigan, has been testing a cream called Retin-A (topical tretinoin) for 14 months. His patients report an improvement. British dermatologists have given Voorhees's work a rather cautious welcome but have suggested that the apparent improvement might be due to

inflammation; in the light of the continuing good reports from Michigan, they have now agreed to carry out their own tests.

Not all the experts agree that skin care products need to be brought into line with medical legislation. Professor Ronald Marks of the University of Wales College of Medicine is one. "We are in danger of putting ourselves into a hotter than thou situation," he says. "Cosmetics in general are pretty harmless. What you are buying is mostly grease. It is a reasonable assumption that these products are not going to do you much good but they won't do you any harm either."

When asked what skin preparations she uses, Dr Dorothy Vollum, a consultant dermatologist at Lewisham Hospital, London, says: "I don't use cosmetics, I am a dermatologist. I clean my face with water, I never use soap, because that would make my skin dry, and I don't put anything on it at all. The only exception is when I go to a very sunny country and I wear a cream with a factor of 15. Most of the claims made by the cosmetics companies are garbage. If they are going to make wild claims about stopping your skin ageing, they should provide us with the scientific proof."

The make-up manufacturers would probably say the proof of the pudding is in the eating. Yves Saint Laurent markets a

product called Principe Actis, a 28-day course involving the use of a face cream into which you mix the contents of a capsule. The contents are freeze-dried placenta from sheep reared in Switzerland. "There is a dramatic effect on the skin within two days," says Gina Ghilley, training manager at YSL. "We get customers coming to spend £52 on the course because they have seen the results on their friends; it is not a case of a woman suffering from self-delusion."

The product, she says, "has evolved out of research which has been done in Paris in skin cancers and skin which has been badly burned. I agree there is a fine line nowadays between the cosmetic and medical industries." The worrying aspect of the trend in "cosmeceuticals", according to Professor Sam Shuster, consultant dermatologist at the Newcastle Royal Victoria Infirmary, is a social one. Since most anti-ageing potions are probably ineffective they cannot do any damage, he says, but it is consumerism at its worst. "Wrinkles equal disgust, which I think is rather sad. Technical breakthroughs to treat scars and blemishes are conceivable, but unfortunately there is no reason for cosmetic companies to spend money on research into proper drugs when they can get an income from selling rubbish."

The difficult diagnosis

Medical Briefing result of surgery on the stomach or gall bladder. The disease increases the permeability of blood vessels and cells so that fluid which incorporates active pancreatic cells secreting digestive enzymes accumulates in the abdomen, where it causes damage both by pressure and through the enzymes attacking normal tissue.

Patients suffering acute pancreatitis often are vomiting and complaining of increasingly severe upper abdominal pain, which may be felt simultaneously in the back. The pain, either gnawing or colicky, is made worse by movement. It can be so severe that the patient exhibits the signs of physical shock: a cold, clammy, grey skin, rapid pulse and low blood pressure; usually the signs the doctor normally finds in an acute abdominal emergency are often absent.

Diagnosis can be confirmed by changes in the blood levels of the digestive enzyme amylase, which rises over the first 24 hours and stays elevated for several days. Even in these days of ultrasound and scanning, the diagnosis is sometimes difficult and an exploratory operation necessary to exclude other causes.

In a third of cases of acute pancreatitis no specific cause is found; in others it may be secondary to gall bladder disease, the obstruction of the pancreatic duct, heavy alcohol intake, some forms of hyperlipidaemia (an increase in blood fats) and some medication, including steroids and thiazide diuretics. It can follow injury, either accidental or as

Chronic pancreatitis may cause similar but much milder attacks which can extend over many years. Anybody who has had any form of pancreatitis is forbidden to take alcohol.

In vitro veritas

At the same time as Louise Brown, Britain's first test tube baby, was celebrating her tenth birthday, doctors in Australia were announcing advances in IVF (In Vitro Fertilization) and the allied technique GIFT (Gamete Intra Fallopian Transfer). The good news from the conference, reported in Hospital Doctor, is that persistence and patience in a would-be mother is usually rewarded by a pregnancy. Dr Wilfried Feichtinger, of Vienna, said the success rate in his clinic was 34 per cent after two attempts, 60 per cent after three, 73 per cent after four, 83 per cent after five, 89 per cent after six, 97 per cent after seven and 99 per cent after eight. Achieving pregnancy is not

Unhealthy lick

News that ice-cream's vanilla flavour is usually due to pipe-rohal, a substance used to kill lice, did not seem to deter people last Sunday who were celebrating a blink of sun by buying ice-creams in the usual numbers. The Ministry of Agriculture has passed such food additives as safe. It seems likely that Dr Melanie Miller's concern about excessive ice-cream eating is on stronger grounds. Miller says people have been misled into thinking that non-dairy ice-cream is healthier than dairy ice-cream, whereas the vegetable oils usually used are every bit as damaging to the arteries as animal fats. Recent research published in The Lancet has shown that

woman's breasts as well as their arteries may suffer from too many ice-creams and a heavy fat intake. Forty per cent of women suffer painful, swollen breasts for a few days before each period. A team of Canadian doctors studied 21 women who suffered severe breast pain premenstrually (cyclical mastopathy). These patients were divided into two groups: one half reduced their fat intake so it only contributed to 15 per cent of their daily calories (the balance was then made up from complex carbohydrates such as are found in vegetables); the other half continued with their traditional transatlantic diet. The patients were regularly assessed. After six months, doctors found there had been a substantial improvement in those who had modified their diet, both in the severity of symptoms and the swelling.

Better a toe you know

I have ugly, large, flat feet; although I am short, I buy shoes for comfort rather than high-heeled fashion. I also used to have bunions on both feet, the right one frequently getting inflamed and sore. So last year I saw a consultant, who was keen to operate on this hallux valgus, and replace the joint with a plastic implant. I discussed the operations with several female friends who had undergone bunion removals, and all said it was painful but well worth it - eventually. My consultant told me I would be in plaster for a month, and might need physiotherapy to get going again. He assured me that, although it might be very painful, six months after the operation I would be pleased it had been done. My huge hallux was removed and replaced with a Silastic implant, and the surgeon also broke and re-set the next three toes to improve the arch. Two days later I was struggling on crutches, and agreeing that toes are, indeed, the most painful post-operative parts. After two months I had progressed painfully from plaster, via crepe bandage, to physiotherapy. I knew then that my foot was fated - the newly set toes curled under without touching the floor, and the "great toe" appeared to be slanting to the left. The physio suggested that the toe had always been crooked, and that it might take a year for me to feel glad about the operation. Despite her best efforts, and my own exercising, the toe refused to do more than twitch, and the left rotation made it look like a thumb. I returned to work with my immovable toe after finding a pair of shoes which were comfortable when I sat at the

SECOND OPINION

Jane Soanes

typewriter. But they were impossible to wear for walking more than 100 yards. The more I wore my "proper" shoes, the more painful my rotated toe became. After nine months and several inspections, the consultant agreed that the toe (now with sore under-side) did need encouraging to change direction. He recommended another operation to rotate and pin it. I then sought a second opinion. This also recommended removing the plastic joint and doing a traditional "Keller" operation which would shorten the toe. I was warned of the possibility that, should I end up with a gap where the joint had been, this would need bridging with a steel plate. Still nobody could tell me what had gone wrong. I was puzzled by the experts' conflicting opinions - whose theatre should I visit? On the basis of "better the devil you know...", I opted for rotation and temporary pinning. If that failed, the implant could then be removed if necessary. It failed. Five months later the consultant admitted that he did not want to "mess around with it anymore", so we said goodbye. The toe is still painful to walk on, difficult to fit into an elegant shoe - and still rotated. After 18 months of toeing this line, I shall keep the plastic implant, and would advise all bunion-bearers, unless it hurts horribly, to hang on to your hallux.

Unlocking a family secret

Marjorie Wallace looks at the research behind the latest findings on schizophrenia - and the implications for sufferers and their children

An extraordinary piece of detective work by Dr Hugh Gurling and his team of research scientists at the Middlesex Hospital, London, which caused a flurry of interest this week, appears to be a major breakthrough in the understanding of schizophrenia, the mental disease which fills more hospital beds than any other illness. Gurling's work, which is to be published in the scientific journal Nature in the next few weeks, has identified the site of a genetic fault which correlates closely with schizophrenia. If he is right (and at present the samples are rather small) schizophrenia is much more strongly inherited than has been believed before: children from some families, he believes, have a fifty-fifty chance of inheriting it should be possible to screen people, and their unborn children, to see whether they carry the risk of developing schizophrenia as young adults. Most important, the discovery of the site of the faulty gene (an identified chromosome is pending) means that we now have a starting point to trace the faulty brain chemistry that doctors believe causes schizophrenia. Once that is understood it may be possible to find a cure. Gurling began by looking at families in which there were sufferers from schizophrenia spread over several generations. In one of these families, a Chinese family living in Vancouver, a man and his uncle were schizophrenic and also had deformed faces. Examination of their chromosomes showed a major abnormality on one chromosome which had three parts instead of the normal two. But if this abnormality caused the deformed face, was it also responsible for the schizophrenia? And if this rare abnormality caused schizophrenia as well as a funny face, might defects in this particular

chromosome be the cause of ordinary schizophrenia? Gurling set about studying the identified chromosome, to see whether he could find some feature that might be responsible for schizophrenia. Because this was genetic research he needed to find families to work with across several generations and which included a considerable number of sufferers from schizophrenia. So the scene moved to Iceland where conditions favour large families often with as many as 10 children or even 20. Gurling managed to find five families in Iceland and two in England consisting of a total of 104 people spread over three generations. Of these, 42 had schizophrenia and a further six had "schizo-typical disorders". The doctors took blood samples from all the members of the families. They then set about finding chemical "markers" which lie close to where they believe that the faulty gene which causes schizophrenia might lie. This is a technique that has already led to the discovery of the site of the gene responsible for Huntington's Chorea and, very recently, manic depression. After a four-year search, the team found a number of markers which are almost always inherited with

the faulty gene in schizophrenic people, but not by those members of the family without symptoms of the disease. A few individuals inherit the faulty gene but show no symptoms. When one parent has schizophrenia and a faulty gene, half the children will inherit the fault and will either suffer from, or may be at risk of developing, schizophrenia. But how could such an obvious inheritance have been overlooked? Gurling thinks it is because most researchers doing genetic field research have made their surveys through telephone interviews or by questionnaires and have missed some of the less obvious forms of the illness. In one case, where a family which was said to have two schizophrenic sufferers was re-surveyed, 30 were discovered. Some studies in Israel, Sweden and the USA also show about a 50 per cent chance of children of an affected parent developing schizophrenia. But Gurling points out that the families he studied were selected because of the strong genetic linkage, and that its strength may well be less in the population as a whole. Dr Elliott Gershon, of the National Institutes of Mental Health in the United States, has also placed markers around the same chromosome



'The chromosome identified could be a cause, but not a common one'

that Gurling identified. Gershon's results, some of which he is likely to announce in the next few days, are apparently less clear cut than Gurling's. "Our results are encouraging in that there is a gene for schizophrenia, but it has to be one of many. It was not detectable in half the number of cases we investigated. You could have several causes. The chromosome we have identified could be a cause, but probably not a common one." At least two other laboratories in Britain, in Edinburgh and Cardiff, are working along similar lines. Dr Timothy Crow, of Northwick Park Hospital, London, is also in the race to find the faulty gene, working with sibling pairs rather than pedigree families. His results have not yet been published, but he is believed to have found markers on a different chromosome. "If you can identify the site of the trouble, that would be a very big advance," he says, "but I think we are still a long way off." For schizophrenia sufferers and their families this is all good news because the latest findings should bring better understanding of their illness. The new work provides more evidence that schizophrenia should not be blamed on "bad mothering" or that family relations on their own are to blame. If, as it now seems indicated, there is an underlying biological reason for schizophrenia, the burden of guilt and responsibility which many families have felt should be lightened.

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THIS IS ALL YOU WEAR

TIMES DIARY

ALAN COREN

Hurling between ironmongers last Saturday, calling for a clock key — for which there was, of course, no call — it was suddenly borne in upon me that a major source of energy had disappeared from our lives. Clockwork has gone.

Time was, time was clockwork, and so much else. Not only was the quondam full of men with ladders and brass cranks pedalling about to ensure the town halls, churches, schools and railway stations kept reasonable pace with Greenwich and did not startle us with errant booms, but unpeened domestic appliances and toys took their cheery energy from the unending spring, and could generally be relied upon to do so, albeit somewhat briefly. They did not go flat. There were no monitoring labels advising us that clockwork was not included. We were not required to dig constantly for the imperial equivalent of £3.99 to feed the insatiable habits of our mechanical help-meets. And when the clockwork items conked out, men in brown coats mended them. If you take today's battered equivalent to a man in a brown coat, he throws it in a bin and sells you another one.

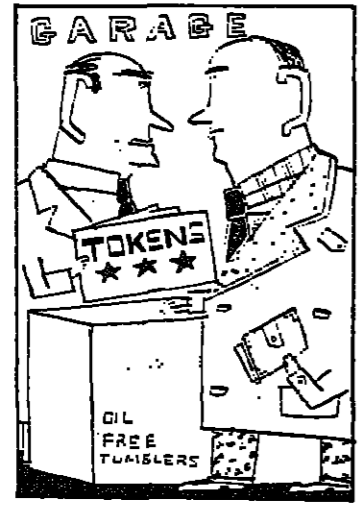
But beyond mere convenience, clockwork imposed a discipline all its own. It was a moral force. It demanded reciprocal regularity. There were times of day when you would things, and special ways of winding them, and slackness or ineptitude invited disorder that spread far beyond the device itself. Tristram Shandy's father, you may recall, was reminded of his nocturnal duty towards Mrs Shandy only by the act of winding the hall clock.

The culture is the poorer — and the more vulnerable — for its passing.

Which brings me to anniversaries, and a choked sob, for today is Peruvian National Day. Now — and despite the appalling tyrannies replaced only since 1985 by a decent working democracy — I have always had a soft spot for Peru; not for such obvious reasons as the unparalleled altitude of its navigable waterways or its exported bolts of vicuña overcoating without which gangsters would look just like anybody else, or even for the fact that but for its notable plankton the South American anchovy might well have long since become extinct, but because it is the only country where large numbers of babies are still christened — somewhat puzzlingly — Alan. It is a name which seems to have died out everywhere else.

Today my soft spot threatens lightheartedness. For today is the first National Day since 1821 to go uncelebrated, as the result of the draconian austerity measures laid down by the government of President Alan Garcia Perez. There are to be no carnivals, no banquets, no masked balls, no corks flying above garlanded boulevards. This column rarely asks anything of its readers, so perhaps it may be excused for suggesting that a supporting glass be raised tonight in the general direction of the Andes and those in their chill shadow struggling gamely to make ends meet.

BARRY FANTONI



"Twenty five get you a copy of the Trade and Industry select committee report on petrol retailing"

I am being pursued by M Daniel Besseiche of Honfleur, who has a picture in his possession. A copy of it arrived in Monday morning's post, but he has the original, and he is after a considerable amount of folding money.

Let the goodwill I have attempted to muster on behalf of the impoverished Peruvians instantly evaporate, let me quickly say that the picture was not snapped through an unnoticed jealousy on some wayward afternoon when calvados eroded inhibition. It is not of me. The picture is a gouache of a Norman boulangerie, plus tree out back and evocative sky, hauntingly painted, and not unreasonably priced at 10,000 francs, all major credit cards accepted. As I discovered when I uninvitedly stepped into M Besseiche's appealing gallery a month ago, and made the mistake of looking at it.

M Besseiche was on me like a ferret. Within seconds I had been persuaded to admit that it was not only the finest picture I had ever seen but also the biggest bargain. It would, I cried, be the work of a scant minute to sprint to my hotel and prise my traveller's cheques from beneath the floorboards.

Naturally enough, I kept going. Nevertheless, somehow the assiduous M Besseiche has sniffed out my domestic whereabouts — I have always known it to be a mistake to fill in those *fiches d'arrivée*, especially in small towns — and has written to suggest that when he next comes to Britain, he will not turn up empty-handed.

Tuesday's post was much less dispiriting. My dreams of a major musical career are about to be fulfilled. I have been invited to play in a "personality concert" in aid of cancer research, to the astute organizers of which has clearly come wind, as it were, of my musical polymathy. Flatteringly confident of a universally competent lip, they have despatched a generous letter offering me as wide a choice of instrument as ever came the way of Roland Kirk.

They are not wrong. With a talent like mine, selection will not be difficult. Given the proffered options of blowing down a scaffold tube, watering can, curtain rod, hollow bamboo stalk, car exhaust, toilet roll or galvanized drainpipe, I should simply pick the one that I think would look best with white tie and tails.

The White Paper on financing students in higher education has once again been delayed, mainly, it appears, because the Treasury and the DES cannot agree on how student loans can be introduced within existing public expenditure limits. Students, in consequence, will continue to be inadequately funded by the grant system and will have no systematic access to borrowing.

What is needed is a way forward which achieves the Government's educational objectives without higher public spending. The answer lies in a system of loans repaid via national insurance contributions.

The mechanics of the scheme are simple. Students take out loans from the state, which they repay in the form of a graduate addition to the national insurance contribution (NIC). To ensure that this involves no increase in public expenditure, the starting point is to set the level of next year's student grant in the usual way and, initially, to keep in place the system of parental contributions.

In addition, two changes would be announced; that henceforth 10 per cent of the grant, the percentage rising over time, will be repayable via the extra NIC, and that the parental contribution will be phased out as rising

Nicholas Barr offers an answer to the Whitehall wrangle

Student loans made easy

repayments make it possible to do so without increasing public spending. The system thus costs the same as current arrangements for about three years, at which point repayment revenues start to come in.

This approach is feasible for quite a modest increase in NICs. Consider a loan scheme designed initially to replace the parental contribution. To achieve this, a typical student would now require a loan of about £2,800 over a three-year degree. A 2.5 per cent additional NIC for someone earning £15,860 a year (the current upper earnings limit for NICs) yields about £400 which, at a 10 per cent interest rate, repays a £2,800 loan in 12 years.

Parental contributions can thus be abolished at no public cost via a 2.5 per cent additional NIC for the typical student, and pro rata more or less for those with larger or smaller loans. Once the system is well established, it can be extended to

cover a larger proportion of the grant.

The scheme has major advantages over the current system and also over the various loan schemes already considered. The inefficient and greatly disliked parental contribution would be phased out, a popular move with parents and also with students. The phasing out can be achieved without any increase in public spending, and the process could be accelerated as public expenditure constraints permitted, if the Government so wished.

There are other advantages. Since the student benefits from having a degree it is right that he or she should contribute towards its costs. Repayments based on national insurance are related to the student's subsequent income, so a graduate nurse pays back very little, at least early in her career. This feature should be crucial to the wider political acceptability of any substantial reliance on loans.

The scheme causes no major administrative problems. It will be cheap to implement and had debts are minimized (defaulting would certainly be considerably less than with commercial loans). The scheme requires only the insertion of the relevant clauses into the Finance Bill, not separate legislation.

Finally, the use of the national insurance mechanism is highly appropriate. The former student is paying for part of his or her degree, and so repayment properly takes the form of a contribution, which is an important aspect of national insurance. The resulting system is also a form of group insurance: the risk of borrowing to finance a degree is taken on by the generation of graduates as a whole, rather than by individual students, who are protected against unemployment and other contingencies. Since there are technical problems with private insurance for some risks (e.g. unemployment)

it is efficient for the state to organize student loans this way.

An obvious question is why students should not be financed by commercial loans repaid like a mortgage. There are two arguments against mortgage-type repayments as the primary source of undergraduate finance. First, many students would be unable to obtain a long-term loan from a bank or building society. The solution is for the state to guarantee the loan. But Treasury rules require the whole of the guaranteed sum to be added to public expenditure (hence, it appears, the DES problems with the Treasury).

Even were this difficulty to be resolved, the fundamental criticism of commercial loans is that they waste talent, since many students from poorer families would be discouraged from going to university. Borrowing to finance a degree is much more risky than borrowing to buy a house: the prospective student is

by no means sure what he is buying; there is a substantial risk (or at least a perceived risk) of failing the degree outright; and many students are far from clear what return the degree might bring. These problems apply with particular strength to children from less privileged backgrounds. Income-related payments thus accord with the Government's objective of encouraging inter-generational mobility.

The scheme is also compatible with the Government's desire to keep taxes low. For those above the upper earnings limit, the extra contribution is equivalent to a lump-sum tax, with the efficiency advantage of not distorting the choice between jobs.

The Government, in conclusion, should recognize the advantage and the political popularity of NIC-based repayments; the opposition parties should drop their resistance to any sort of loan scheme; and the Treasury and DES should take up these proposals as a basis for a mutually acceptable accommodation.

The author is Lecturer in Economics at the London School of Economics. This article is based on joint work with Professor Mervyn King and John Barnes of the LSE.

Mary Dejevsky

The damnation of Brezhnev

Leonid Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party from 1964 to 1981, is well on his way down the slope of infamy reserved for past Soviet leaders. Consigned on his death to the crowded limbo of non-persons, he has now been summarily dispatched to the inferno of arch-villains. He is considered second only to Stalin in the damage he inflicted on the Soviet state. His relatives have been deprived of their enhanced pensions, and his son-in-law, Yuri Churbanov, a former deputy interior minister, is to stand trial in September for alleged corruption.

The public disgrace of Brezhnev provokes mixed feelings among his former subjects. His death elicited tributes to the stability he had brought to the Soviet administration — a stability now condemned as stagnation. He was praised, too, for having taken the terror out of Soviet life. Under his rule, it was said, people slept soundly at night without fear of the step on the stairs, the knock on the door.

To those who crave security, the damnation of Brezhnev holds the threat of disturbance. The thorough vilification of Brezhnev and his clan also has about it an unpleasant whiff of the absolutism that prevailed in earlier years but has been officially forsworn. Some suspect that a villainous Brezhnev, father of all present ills, is the perfect foil for Mr Gorbachov in his effort to institute change.

But in one quarter, at least, Brezhnev's disgrace has brought unalloyed relief and muted rejoicing in the intellectual community. Many intellectuals are gratified that the late general secretary is being recognized for what they have long known him to be: ill-informed, bigoted, but above all an enemy of free expression and innovation.

Gradually, they are telling their stories. They are neither so tragic nor perhaps so heroic as those told by the survivors of Stalin's terror. Few of Brezhnev's intellectuals were threatened with death or even imprisonment. Few chose — or were forced into — exile abroad; still fewer followed Dr Andrei Sakharov into open confrontation with the authorities, though



many greatly admired him for it. They retreated instead into internal exile, an exile of the spirit, in which they closed their private lives from their public lives and held their peace. Scientists, if they were able, played safe with pure theory or unoriginal practice. Cultural figures with the ability and training emulated Boris Pasternak under Stalin, and turned to translation. Historians chose the ostensibly harmless fields of ancient and medieval history. As in Stalin's day, many a contemporary battle was waged by proxy within a closed circle of initiates who knew how to draw the modern allusions from their colleagues' analyses of the distant past.

One of the most sensitive areas was that of politics and economics. These were new subjects and the preserve largely of a generation of students who now form the new Soviet middle class. They were not members of pre-revolutionary intellectual or aristocratic families, but the able children of workers or first-generation collective farmers who had taken the opportunities offered them to become the first in their family to receive a higher education.

The spirit of inquiry had been instilled when they were students. Even in the late Stalin years there were professors and editors to inspire curiosity, then to nurture and protect it. In the early years of Khrushchev, they were able to exercise their newly acquired skills almost unhindered, revelling in even the limited experimentation of the late 1950s. Within 10 years, their world had closed in.

They are quite different characters. Butenko boisterous, perhaps a little indiscreet, and an enthusiast for political speculation — transcends the bare schoolroom of his office. Selyunin, sitting in his book-lined sitting room, has a quieter, more considered approach, but is no less passionate about his chief (unpublished) work of the last 20 years: setting Soviet statistics straight — from published sources.

In May, Selyunin published a long discursive article in the monthly *Novy Mir*. It was written in literary Russian of a quality not often to be read in Soviet publications today. Framed in the country idyll of his childhood, it dissected the reasons why the Soviet economy

was not working and would not work — until the interests of the individual had been taken into account. What distinguished the article was its implied criticism not only of Stalinism as a deviation from Marxism-Leninism, but of the collective ethos itself.

How did Selyunin, born in 1927, educated in the provinces and a factory worker before he developed his taste for education, come upon such ideas? He had one inspiring mentor — an economic planner trained before the revolution — who refused to fetter his mind (and was purged by Stalin). Later, he worked under an editor who asked angrily whether he had a "chief economic observer" or not when Selyunin refused to

write comment — then protected him through four years (1979-82) when he wrote only factual reports. Selyunin's personal act of defiance was not to endorse Brezhnev's "food programme" — paraded as the answer to the country's shortages. He predicted, privately, that it would not work, and why, and he refused to say that it would.

Selyunin is now part of a small circle of economic thinkers who contribute to economic thought from the sidelines. This month he has an article published in *Znamya* which argues for more full-blooded de-collectivization and decentralization than Gorbachov has ever advocated. This, he says, is the only hope for the Soviet economy.

Professor Butenko is an exact

contemporary of Selyunin, and scarcely more optimistic about the Soviet economy. His career has been subject to similar vicissitudes. His early enthusiasm for Stalin as a war leader was demolished by the evidence of his own eyes. After gaining some prominence under Khrushchev, his career slipped down. In the late Brezhnev years, he published little; only one interview, to be exact. It elicited a call to his superiors from the Politburo asking who is this Butenko to decide what is good or bad socialism, and resulted in a formal reprimand.

Subsequently, at the instigation where he is now a department head, he was part of a team which analysed the Solidarity phenomenon in Poland and the drawbacks of involvement in Afghanistan. The institute's findings, which in both cases cut across official policy, drew high-level criticism. In the past two years he has started to publish again, and has warm words for his superiors and editors who protected him and distinguished between things that should not be published because they were incorrect, and things that could not be said because they would not pass the censors.

Now his central argument is that while Khrushchev broke Stalin's terror, he did not succeed in breaking the bureaucratic apparatus which had made it possible. He sees this as Gorbachov's most difficult task. His greatest regret is the fact that, in his experience, foreign scholars are so much better informed about Soviet history than Soviet historians themselves.

The withdrawal of intellectuals like Butenko and Selyunin from public life in the 1970s and early 1980s deprived the Soviet state of some of its most lively and original minds in their prime. Moreover, the tensions of those years have left the intellectual community split in many ways. Graduates are being nurtured which will be passed on to a future generation of students.

Slowly, the damage inflicted on Soviet scholarship and intellectual life is being officially acknowledged, as the penalties of academic insularity. But it will take more than one generation before they are overcome.

Commentary • MADSEN PIRE

Playing the blame game

It is noteworthy when a new logical fallacy establishes itself into our thinking. When I wrote about tricks and twists of logic in *The Book of the Fallacy* I identified 78 different types of fallacy, some from ancient civilizations. There is reason now to add a new one: "Thatcher's Blame" has earned itself a place in the records.

New names often stick if there are two reasons to sustain them. Thus, a William Coke, tired of having his top hat knocked off by low branches when he was hunting, asked Lock's of St James's Street to make him a rigid but less lofty replacement. The name "bowler" caught on not only because the haters provided him with a "bow hat" but because it was made for them by the Bowler Brothers of the City of London.

In a similar way, Thatcher's Blame could catch on not only because it is named after its principal victim but because the Thatcher, when fixing a roof, covers everything. Thatcher's Blame covers everything. It is committed when the blame is apportioned to someone regardless of the circumstances.

Only a short time ago we were told that the rising tide of violence and loutishness was attributable to the poverty and unemployment of the Thatcher economy. Mrs Thatcher was to blame because deprivation led to the "have-nots" in despair to aggression and criminality. Now that the economy is booming and Britain is prosperous once

more, the same violence and loutishness is laid at the door of the materialism and the "loads-of-money" attitude of the Thatcher economy. Either way it is Mrs Thatcher's fault.

Sometimes it is the same people (such as Roy Hattersley) who made the first charge who also make the second. A clear case of Thatcher's Blame. When England is treated to radical Thatcherism ahead of Scotland, Mrs Thatcher is accused of neglecting Scotland. When the new policies are applied first in Scotland, as with the community charge, she is "using Scotland as a testbed". If the changes are introduced simultaneously, then she is guilty of "failing to recognize the essential differences between the two countries". Whatever course is chosen, Thatcher's Blame is awarded.

It used to be considered good practice to look at the evidence first before deciding where to allot the blame. Now the style is to determine who is to blame, and then to interpret the evidence accordingly. Thus, when Mrs Thatcher devoted her energies toward improving the conditions of life she was accused of a crass materialism which paid insufficient regard to the moral dimension. When she

did turn her attention to such matters, her charge was one of interfering in the affairs of the church. Once again, Thatcher's Blame is given either way.

The fallacy has been developing steadily over the years. When the loss-making nationalized industries were turned around, this was a "brutal and draconian" regime they were subjected to. When they became profitable, they were suddenly transformed into "precious family silver" which was "recklessly" sold off. The same person, of course, was blamed each time.

The fallacy, to be done well, needs a certain amount of verbal dexterity. A skilled verbal charge should be able to criticize for one reason, and then slide comfortably into attacking the same person for the exact opposite reason. The ground should change without tremor.

The Government took the blame until recently for steering the economy into recession. The talk was of the "decimation" of British industry and of the new industrial wasteland. Now the charge is one of "overheating the economy, at risk of 'inflationary expansion'". The same people may be blamed by the same critics for doing the same things. Only the reasons need change.

Thatcher's Blame can look forward to a long and distinguished political career. It is, after all, an extraordinarily useful device. It allows one the luxury of sustaining an opinion regardless of what may happen. It keeps the dust and taint of the

JULY 28 ON THIS DAY 1953

In June 1950 a United Nations force under American command went to the aid of South Korea after it was invaded by the communists. North. Truce negotiations began in July 1953 and dragged on for two years. Panmunjon still serves as a meeting place between delegations from North and South.

FIGHTING CEASES IN KOREA

From Our Special Correspondent PANMUNJON, July 27

The armistice agreement between the United Nations and the Communists was signed here this morning at 10 o'clock (2 am BST) in a grimly silent ceremony which lasted for only 12 minutes. Guns still boomed across the neutral zone and the smoke of their shells exploding on the surrounding hills could be seen from the windows of the armistice hall while General Harrison and General Nam II each signed 36 copies of the agreement — 12 copies each in English, Korean, and Chinese. At dusk United Nations troops set out into no-man's-land on their usual patrols.

But at 10 o'clock tonight the battlefield fell silent as the cease-fire came into operation and soldiers unloaded their weapons, though they still carried ammunition with them. Like the signing ceremony, tonight's cease-fire was unusually unemotional and almost anti-climatic. Nobody threw his cap in the air, nobody cheered, and there was no celebration — only a sense of release from strain.

Among the South Korean divisions which hold nearly three-quarters of the line, the feeling was rather different; the troops had been briefed by their officers during the day, and they carried out their orders steadily and almost silently — but they ceased firing.

Throughout the day and right up till 10 o'clock tonight the American Air Force carried out heavy raids on enemy targets, as if to convince the Communists that two can play the game of continuing the offensive until the last minute.

Two undefeated ideologies, which had fought each other to a standstill in this remote Korean peninsula, met to sign a truce which both sides badly wanted. There was no pretence at an exchange of courtesies, or even of civility. Four hundred people assembled in a large structure, built of bamboo and wood, looking like a cross between a village hall and an eastern pagoda. Half were Communists, seated stiffly in two segregated groups — the Chinese in their drab uniforms and the North Koreans looking more military in dark green jackets and dark blue trousers with red stripes.

General Harrison and General Nam II entered the hall from opposite ends, but at precisely 10 o'clock and, without the slightest sign of recognizing each other's presence, sat down on the same side of the central tables, but about 15ft apart. Without further ado their aides began placing before them piles of documents. As soon as they had finished both men rose (as did the entire audience), turned in opposite directions and walked out. Thus this strange and unfriendly piece of history was written in almost unadorned fashion.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE July 27: The Queen held an investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning. Dr Manfred Woerner (Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) had the honour of being received by Her Majesty. Sir Oliver Miller had the honour of being received by the Queen and took leave upon his retirement as Director of the Royal Collection and Surveyor of The Queen's Pictures when Her Majesty invested him with the insignia of a Knight Grand Cross of The Royal Victorian Order. The Hon. Robert Boswell, M.P. had the honour of being received by the Queen and delivered up his Wand of Office as Comptroller of the Household. Mr. Tristan Garel-Jones, M.P. had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, delivered up his Wand of Office as Vice-Chamberlain of the Household, and received from the Queen his Wand of Office as Comptroller of the Household. Mr Michael Neubert, M.P. had the honour of being received by the Queen upon his appointment as Vice-Chamberlain of the Household and received from Her Majesty his Wand of Office. The Right Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P. (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of Her Majesty this evening. KENSINGTON PALACE July 27: The Prince of Wales this evening attended a concert at the Barbican Centre sponsored by C.T. Bowring and Company to mark the Tercentenary of Lloyd's. Sir John Kiddell, Bt. was in attendance. Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, The Multiple Sclerosis Society, this afternoon opened the Society's Bramble Respite Care Hotel, Horley, Surrey. YORK HOUSE July 27: The Duke of Kent, Vice Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, today visited C. Davidson and Sons Limited, Bucksburn and Pressure Products Group Limited, Westhill, Aberdeen. Later, as President of the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund, His Royal Highness opened Alastair House, Aboyne, Aberdeenshire. The Duke, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Sir Richard Buckley. The Duchess of Kent today undertook engagements in the Isle of Man. Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Miss Sarah Partridge.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will give a garden party at Buckingham Palace at 4.00. The Duke and Duchess of Kent will attend. The Prince and Princess of Wales will attend the matinee performance of the 1988 Royal Tournament at Earls Court at 2.15. The Prince of Wales will visit HMS Warrior 1860 at HM Naval Base, Portsmouth, at 6.30 and will dine with the Warrant Officers and Chief Petty Officers of HMS Dolphin and the First Submarine Squadron on the occasion of the Mountbatten Night Dinner in the Warrant Officers' Mess, HMS Dolphin, at 8.00. The Princess Royal will visit Rolls-Royce Motor Cars at Crews at 2.15. Princess Margaret will open the new building of Alpha-Numeric Systems at Bourne End, Buckinghamshire, at 3.00.

Receptions

Anglo Jewish Association Mr Clemens N. Nathan, President of the Anglo Jewish Association, and Mrs Rachel Nathan were hosts at a farewell party at the Athenaeum Club on Tuesday, July 26, in honour of Mr Yehuda Avner, Israeli Ambassador in London. Among those present were: Mrs G. Cartwright, Mrs S. Cohen, Judge Mrs F. Finstein, Mr F. Finkelshteyn, Mrs M. Franklin, Mr and Mrs D. Jacobs, Mr D. Kessler, Mr G. Lightman, Mr M. Lurie, Mr and Mrs S. Moshe, Mr and Mrs M. Pines, Mr and Mrs B. Winpale and Dr H. Winpale. Corporation of London The Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher attended a reception given by the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London at Guildhall last night to mark the annual congress of the International Confederation of Reserve Officers. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, received the guests.

Royal Society Medal award

Professor Louis Wain, Honorary Professor of Chemistry at the University of Kent, has been awarded the Royal Society Mullard Medal. The award, one of the most prestigious honours bestowed by the Royal Society, is made for "outstanding contributions to the advancement of science leading directly to national prosperity in the United Kingdom." Professor Wain discovered and developed a number of important agricultural chemicals widely used for increasing the yield of food crops throughout the world.

Appointment

Lieutenant General Charles Edward Webb Jones, late RGJ, is to be Colonel Commandant 3rd Battalion The Royal Green Jackets in succession to General Sir James Glover.

Royal birthday flowers



Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother yesterday celebrated her 88th birthday a week early when she was showered with more than 40 gifts at the Sandringham Flower Show. Twelve thousand people clapped and cheered the Queen Mother during her 90-minute

tour. She was clearly delighted with gifts of bunches of roses, carnations, chrysanthemums, baskets of fruit and even jars of honey. She is seen here smelling flowers presented to her by children at the show. Photograph: James Gray

University news

London Professor Ted Honderich has been appointed Grot professor of philosophy of mind and logic in the department of philosophy at University College London. The Chadwick Trust has awarded the 1988 travelling fellowship to Miss B. C. Bonning, of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and travelling scholarships to Miss P. Gill and Miss A. J. Williams, of University College London. Nottingham Professor John Arbuthnot takes up the chair of microbiology at the university in October. He comes from Trinity College

Dublin, and trained at Glasgow University.

Polytechnic news

Sheffield The polytechnic has appointed two new deans, who will take up office at the beginning of the new academic year. They are Dr David Balmforth and Elizabeth Rick. Dr Balmforth will take over as the dean of the faculty of the environment. He will succeed Alan Leaker who retires this summer. Elizabeth Rick will take over as the dean of the faculty of business and management. She will succeed Dr Warren Gilchrist.

Archaeology The Vikings' brief stay in Vinland

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

Environmental studies at the first and only certain Viking settlement in North America have shown that it was a small, short-lived community that had little impact on its surroundings.

This accords with archaeological evidence, but runs counter to a number of radiocarbon dates that suggest a longer period of occupation.

The site, at L'Anse aux Meadows on the northern tip of Newfoundland, was discovered and excavated by Helge Ingstad and Anne Stine in the 1960s. They identified it with the "Vinland" described in the Norse sagas, and proved that the Viking discovery of America five centuries before Columbus was a reality.

A number of sod houses and workshops, a smithy and evidence for iron-working, using local bog-iron as raw material, and a few artefacts of indisputably Scandinavian origin were found. More than 50 radiocarbon samples from the Norse period of occupation gave dates between AD 650 and 1050, and although some were clearly on old wood, a long occupation was suggested.

More recent research, reported in Geoaerchaeology, showed that there had been more than 5,000 years of human activity at L'Anse aux Meadows, with more than 100 radiocarbon dates. The first occupation, at about 3200 BC in

radiocarbon years, is poorly known, and there was then a gap until about 900 BC. For 600 years thereafter, people of the Dorset culture camped and made hearths on the low terrace overlooking the sea, and their descendants returned between AD500 and 800.

Preceding the Viking discovery of Newfoundland there was an American Indian occupation, presumably the "Skraelings" encountered by the Norse when they arrived. Subsequently more Indians, perhaps the historic Beothuk, used the site between AD1300 and 1700.

The present environment is one of heath and wetland, including peat fens and fluvial marshes, with a band of salt-tolerant vegetation along the ancient beach line where the settlement lies. A set of mounds cut into the peat were analysed for pollen, charting changes in the vegetation over time.

The peat bog began to form some 2,500 years ago, killing trees that had been thought by earlier scholars to have been removed by Norse deforestation. The Viking occupation is not in fact marked by any evidence of clearance, cultivation, or European weeds, in contrast to the pollen record at Viking sites in Greenland.

The major disturbance seems to have been cutting of peat to build the sod-walled houses, although since less than

3,000 square metres were required, the lack of evidence in the peat stratigraphy is not surprising.

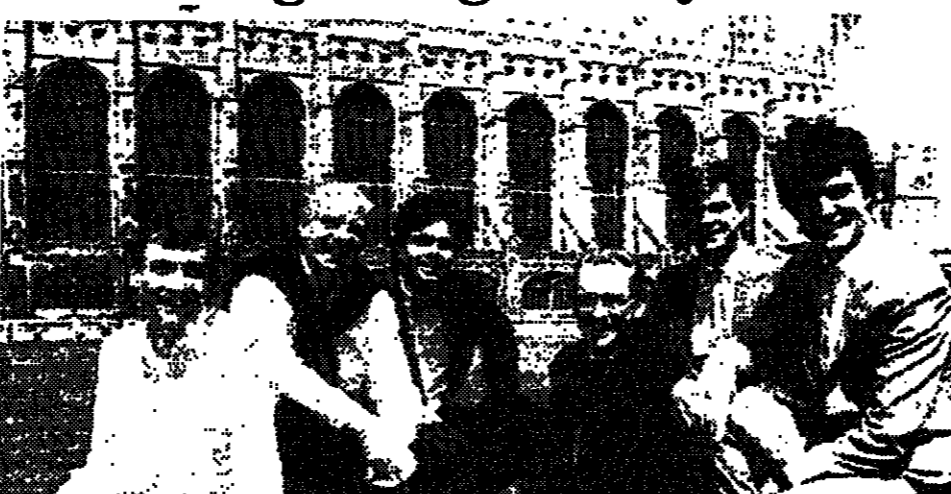
The lack of environmental impact demonstrated by the pollen evidence agrees with Dr Birgitta Wallace's reassessment of the archaeology of the Norse settlement at L'Anse aux Meadows. She suggested that it had been a small transit station, on the basis of the paucity of artefacts, the lack of extensive middens, in the absence of burials, and one period of building is evident and both the wooden artefacts and the numerous nails and rivets suggest that boat repair was the main activity.

The Vikings do seem to have penetrated further south than Newfoundland: three butternuts (Juglans cinerea) found in the fen are from a plant found no nearer than New Brunswick on the Canadian mainland. Dr Wallace suggests that "Vinland" was not a site but a region, with L'Anse aux Meadows lying at its northern end.

Other more southerly Viking sites are not likely to be much more substantial since the sagas indicate no more than four visits by small groups, with no occupancy lasting more than three years.

Source: Geoaerchaeology 3: 53-64.

The King's Singers 20 years on



The King's Singers return to Cambridge 20 years after they formed as a popular choral group. Seen here, left to right, with the university in the background are Jeremy Jackman, Alastair Hume, Stephen Connolly, Bob Chilcott, Bruce Russell and Simon Carrington.

New forestry management

A management scheme has been announced by the Forestry Commission to produce timber from one of Britain's most outstanding areas of natural woodland while preserving its reputation as a wildlife habitat.

The Bedford Purlieus, which covers 500 acres on the outskirts to Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, is one of the largest remaining blocks of ancient broadleaf woodland in eastern England and has already been scheduled as a site of special scientific interest containing many rare plants such as herb paris and columbine, a variety of butterflies including the grizzled skipper and white admiral as well as animals and amphibians.

The new scheme has been drawn up with the co-operation of the Nature Conservancy Council and will ensure that the woodland will be managed to produce timber for industry and at the same time maintained and enhanced to protect its important wildlife.

Mr Keith Wilson, of the Forestry Commission, said: "The plan combines good wildlife conservation practice with the production of timber and we are confident that it will form a pattern for management plans for other similar sites of special scientific interest."

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jacopo Sanzaro, poet, Naples, 1436; Ludwig Feuerbach, philosopher, Landshut, Germany, 1804; Gerard Manley Hopkins, poet, London, 1844; Beatrix Potter, London, 1866; Marcel Duchamp, artist, 1887.

DEATHS: Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, statesman, executed, London, 1540; Abraham Cowley, poet, Chertsey, Surrey, 1667; Antonio Vivaldi, Vienna, 1741; Johann Sebastian Bach, Leipzig, 1750; Maximilien de Robespierre, executed, Paris, 1794; Giuseppe Sarti, composer, Rome, 1802; Otto Hahn, chemist, pioneer of nuclear fission, Nobel laureate 1944, Göttingen, Germany, 1968.

Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, 1914.

Service award

The General Service Medal with a special clasp is to be awarded to Servicemen and Merchant Navy personnel who took part in the operation in the Gulf of Suez in 1984.

Church appointment

The Queen has approved that the Reverend Colin David Elliott, Vicar of All Saints, Belvedere, in the Diocese of Rochester, be appointed to the Vicarage of St John the Evangelist, Bromley in the County of Kent and in the said Diocese, in succession to the Reverend Philip William Ind, BD.

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon R.C. Buxton and Miss A. Hawker The engagement is announced between Richard Buxton, of St Ann's Villas, W11, son of the late Lord and Lady Noel-Buxton, and Annabel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Hawker, of The Old Rectory, Stanfield, Dereham, Norfolk.

Mr A.J. Berkeley Booth and Miss N.R. Stern The engagement is announced between Alistair John, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Berkeley Booth, of Preston, Lancashire, and Nicola Rachel, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Stern, of Wimbledon.

Dr A. Collier Cameron and Miss M.M. Jardine The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Major and Mrs R.C.H. Collier, of Nelson, New Zealand, and Moira, younger daughter of the late Mr H. White and of Mrs R. Jardine, of Renton, Dumfriesshire.

Marriages

Mr S.W. Crawford and Miss J. Ord The engagement is announced between Shaun, son of Dr and Mrs J.A.B. Crawford, of Marlow, Buckinghamshire, and Lucy, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Ord, of Willesey, Gloucestershire.

Mr G.C. Davies and Miss A.W. Warden The engagement is announced between Guy Charles Davies, The Life Guards, son of Mr and Mrs D.A. Davies, of Bush End, Hertfordshire, and Alice Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs W.A. Warden, of Little Hadham, Hertfordshire.

Mr L.A. Parsons and Miss J.J. Menaro The engagement is announced between Luke, elder son of Mr and Mrs J.A. Parsons, of Purley, Surrey, and Isabelle Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Munro, of Hove, Sussex.

Mr J.G. Masters and Miss M. Russell The engagement is announced between Jonathan, younger son of Mr Keith Masters, FRCOG, and Miss M. Russell, of Walsall, and Mandy, twin daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Russell, of Scholes Village, Rotherham.

Mr J.J. Legge and Miss M.A. King The engagement is announced between Jeremy, younger son of Mr Geoffrey Copper Legge, of Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, and Mrs Jennifer Jill Legge, of Haddenham, Buckinghamshire, and Melanie, daughter of Mr John King, of Jerez, Spain, and Mrs Patricia King, of Antwerp, Belgium.

Mr G.C. Wilkinson and Miss G.S. Willis The engagement is announced between Matthew Charles, elder son of Mr Robert Parsons, of Chestow, Gwent, and Barbara, daughter of Mr and Mrs Denis Sawden, of Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire.

Mr M.C. Tyler and Miss C.H.J. Aylmore The engagement is announced between Matthew Charles, son of Mr and Mrs Derek Tyler, of Keeres Green, Athorpe, Roding, Essex, and Catherine Hilary Jane, daughter of Colonel and Mrs Robert Aylmore, of Andover, Hampshire.

Marriages

Mr T.J. Allen and Miss D.S. Colling The marriage took place on Saturday, July 23, 1988, at Warrington Parish Church, of Mr Timothy Allen, youngest son of Mr and Mrs G.E. Allen, of South Anston, South Yorkshire, to Miss Dorothy Colling, only daughter of Canon J.O. and Mrs Colling, of the Rectory, Warrington, Cheshire. The bride's father officiated, assisted by the Rev T.R. Evans and the Rev S.P. Atwater.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr Oliver Colling, was attended by Miss Elizabeth Allen. Mr Antony Batty was best man. A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Dr R.T.W. Arthur and Miss G. Colussi The marriage took place in Toronto on July 16, between Dr Richard Arthur, eldest son of Professor and Mrs Geoffrey Arthur, of Stone Allerton, Somerset, and Miss Gabriella Colussi, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Giovanni Colussi, of North York, Toronto.

Mr E.F.G. Peck and Mrs E.M. Truakle The marriage took place quietly on Tuesday, July 26, 1988, at Farm Street Church, London, between Mr Geoffrey Peck and Mrs Elena Truakle.

Agriculture

East Anglian Black Fen is gradually disappearing

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Black Fen of East Anglia, the land drained by Cornelius Vermuyden in the 17th Century to provide the most fertile soil in Britain, is disappearing as a result of erosion, drainage and intensive cultivation.

A recently completed study by the Soil Survey and Land Research Centre has found that less than one sixth of the original extent of Fenland peat still remains. At current annual rates of loss, no more than 30 of the original 572 square miles will be left by the middle of the next century.

The Fens were formed at the end of the last Ice Age between 10,000 and 12,000 years ago, when melting ice from glaciers caused sea levels to rise, and much of East Anglia was inundated. The sea later receded to leave freshwater swamps in which peat was formed by rotting vegetation.

The first attempts to drain the Fens were made by the Romans, but very little was achieved until Vermuyden was brought over from the Netherlands by James I to oversee a historic feat of engineering.

But over the last 350 years the great drainage complex has progressively lowered the level of the land. If intensive agricultural practices continue, almost total destruction is inevitable, according to Mr Rodney Burton, the survey's co-ordinator.

Large areas of poor quality, acidic clay are now coming to the surface, threatening the region's hitherto prosperous horticulture. In the worst affected parts of the 40,000 acre Cambridgeshire County Estate, small scale vegetable growers may be faced with little option other than to amalgamate their holdings into larger arable enterprises.

"Peat is 90 per cent water, so drain the land and it shrinks", Mr Burton says. When that is combined with biological decay from the influx of air, compaction from heavy machinery and wind erosion, wastage can be so great that it dramatically transforms the landscape.

At Holme Fen, near Peterborough, as much as 21 feet has been lost since the last century, making it the lowest natural land surface in England, at nine feet below sea level.

Holme Post, a cast iron pillar taken from the old Crystal Palace after its destruction by fire in 1851, was hammered into the peat of Whittlesey Mere so that its top was flush with the soil surface. Today the top of the pillar is more than 13 feet above its surroundings.

OBITUARY

SIR RICHARD STRATTON Supporter of the relationship with New Zealand

Sir Richard Stratton, KCMG, who died on July 26, in London, at the age of 64, had a distinguished diplomatic career, many of his posts being in far-flung parts. He retired in 1984 as High Commissioner to New Zealand, after a career which virtually spanned the world, taking him from South America to Japan, and from Southern Africa to the foothills of the Himalayas.

Richard James Stratton was born on July 16, 1924, and educated at The King's School, Rochester, and Merton College, Oxford. During the war he served with the Coldstream Guards, and afterwards joined the Foreign Office in 1947.

Though the following years were to take him all over the globe, he also enjoyed the home postings, and the interest which derived from them, of being in the fringe of the political world.

Thus his years as Private Secretary to the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Foreign Office (1955-58) and his appointment as Private Secretary to Lord Carrington, then Minister without Portfolio, FO, in 1963-64, were remembered by him with great affection.

His first foreign job was in the British Embassy in Tokyo in 1953, and thereafter he progressed via Seoul; the Nato Defence College in Paris; Bonn; Abidjan; Rawalpindi; and Hong Kong, where he was Political Adviser to the Government; to his three embassies to Africa: Zaire (1974-77); Burundi (1975-77); and Rwanda (1977).

His appointment as High Commissioner to New Zealand, and concurrently to Western Samoa and the governorship of Pitcairn Island, in 1980, brought the right man to the job. Stratton was a gregarious man and a great traveller, and he got around New Zealand making a great many friends.

He was a diplomat of the old school, who knew how to cultivate the right people. These were the Malcom years when relations between Britain and New Zealand were at their most harmonious, and Stratton was an ideal man to keep the traditional ties going.

In retirement he remained a loyal supporter of the Anglo-New Zealand relationship through his active participation in the affairs of the New Zealand Society in London. He was unmarried.

SQUADRON LEADER WILLIAM MONTAGUE EDDY

Squadron Leader William Edward Montague Eddy, DSO, DFC, and Bar, who died in Carmen de Patagoes in Argentina on July 25, aged 78, after a long illness, was one of a distinguished band of men who came from Argentina to join the British forces during the Second World War.

Born in 1909, he was the son of Sir Montague Eddy, chairman and managing director of the Argentine Southern Railway, and grandson of E. M. G. Eddy, chief commissioner of the New South Wales Railway.

He was educated at Stowe before settling to an agricultural life in Argentina. At the outbreak of War he volunteered for the RAF and after a certain delay was called up and dispatched to England. Here in spite of his age he was trained as a pilot.

There followed an initial period of training others to fly before he joined 103 Squadron of Bomber Command.

From then on his career followed an unusual and distinguished course. In February 1943, on his 16th operation, his Lancaster was shot down. One parachute having been destroyed, he ordered his crew to bail out whilst he successfully crash-landed his aircraft in North Belgium.

By various means, and helped, as he was always the first to admit, by many brave people, he progressed using what was known as the "comet line" across Belgium to Brussels and from there to Paris and Bryonnie. Finally, after a long and arduous journey, he was back across the Spanish border at Iruya.

On his return to England he joined 139 Squadron and flew Mosquitoes as one of Benet's Pathfinder. In this capacity he completed no less than another 60 operations making a total of 75 for his wartime career. He attained the rank of Squadron Leader.

His enthusiasm for flying, kindled by a joyride on the Isle of Wight when he was a boy, never left him, and well past his 70th year he was still flying his own light aeroplane.

After the War Air Vice-Marshal Benet invited him to help pioneer the new South American Airways route. He declined, preferring to resume an agricultural life in Argentina. He purchased his own property and successfully ran it with two of his sons almost until his death.

Predeceased by his wife Blackie, he leaves three sons and a daughter.

FR GODFREY ANSTRUTHER

Father Godfrey Anstruther, OP, the Roman Catholic historiographer, died on July 23, aged 85. A Londoner, born in 1903, he was the son of a Roman Catholic controversialist and journalist of the old school, G. Elliot Anstruther, and a parishioner of St Dominic's Priory, Haverstock Hill.

The young Anstruther entered the Dominican Order in 1920 and was ordained priest in 1926 at Ghent, the first English member of a Roman Catholic religious order, it is said, to be free from the penalties just removed from the statute books for those ordained abroad.

FR GODFREY ANSTRUTHER

interplay between an individual and his inheritance, remained his chief interest. He made a close study of wills and Roman Catholic marriages and was much involved as a contributor to Essex Recusant, the pioneering local Roman Catholic history periodical.

His illuminating monograph on the troubled early history of the post-Reformation English Dominicans, A Hundred Homeless Years (1956), emphasises the essentially domestic character of a religious family while his most influential work, the monumental four-volume survey of The Seminary Priests (1968-77), makes clear the intricate network of courage which was so marked a feature of recusant history.

The Seminary Priests, with its three thousand biographical studies of the English secular clergy has become a standard work of reference and the longest his achievement a festschrift, edited by Don Aidan Bellenger of Downside and entitled Opening the Scrolls was published in 1987.

Unlike many autodidacts Father Godfrey carried his learning lightly. He remained a good companion and a gifted raconteur to the end. As a young man, in conversation with Father Bede Jarrett, the Dominican Provincial, he confided that he had always been torn between the choice of being a clown or a priest. Father Bede's advice was clear: "Choose both".

Until the day of his death he had something about him of the disarming humility of the clown, but he always remained first and foremost a priest and a friar preacher.

LIEUT-COL GEORGE SOUTH

Lieutenant-Colonel George South, MBE, TD, International Chairman of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, died in Calgary, Canada, on July 24. He was 72.

A London and Totnes solicitor, and chairman of the Dart Harbour Authority, he was for more than twenty years hon secretary of the Royal Philatelic Society, and its president, during which time he was chairman of the "London 1980" International

Philatelic Exhibition. During the war he served with the 21st Royal Tank Brigade and the 48th Royal Tank Regiment in North Africa, and was proud to have fought alongside Canadians and Poles at Cassino.

Throughout a long and full life he gave selflessly of his time and talents for the common good. He is survived by his wife Pamela and their three sons.

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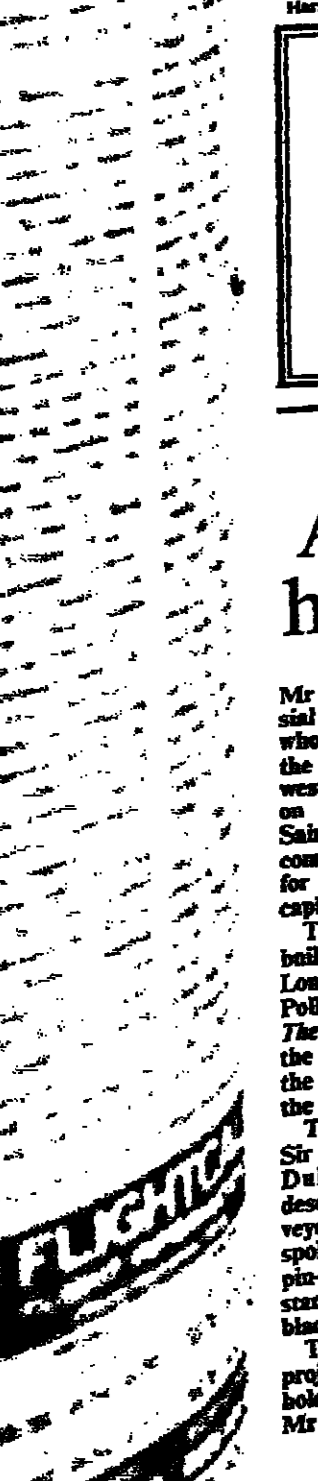
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A building with a hole - and a prize. By Charles Knevit, Architecture Correspondent. Mr Ian Pollard, the controversial designer and developer whose Corinthian columns on the Salisbury Homage in west London were demolished on the orders of Sir John Sainsbury before it was even completed, has won an award for changing the face of the capital.

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Architecture. A building with a hole - and a prize. By Charles Knevit, Architecture Correspondent.

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THE ARTS

David Robinson finds Eddie Murphy's latest old-fashioned, while a four-year-old film from Iran is his pick of the week

Prince Eddie is charming

Currently smashing US box-office records, *Coming to America* has taken as much in its first two weeks as *Crocodile Dundee* did in six, and is making a bid to break the \$100 million barrier within the month. Which demonstrates either the unprecedented drawing power of the star, Eddie Murphy, or how strong is the public's primal hunger for the sort of fairy stories once provided by folk tales, ballads, children's books and Christmas pantomime.

Murphy takes credit for the story, but it could come from any mythology. The King presents the Prince with a bride, but the Prince begs for 40 days to travel with his servant to a far-off land. Seeking a woman who will love him for himself alone, he pretends to be a beggar. In this guise he wins the love of a peasant girl. The Prince's secret is eventually revealed, but the girl's fears and the old King's objections are overcome. They marry and live happily ever after.

The Prince's kingdom is a cardboard palace in an African jungle peopled by friendly elephants, giraffes and zebra. The only concession to updating is to make the far-off country the Queens district of New York and the peasant girl the daughter of a self-made hamburger house proprietor.

The mere presence on screen of the genial and handsome Murphy is clearly all his devotees demand since the role gives him very little to do but react to events — rather inconsistently, since the character moves unpredictably from silly-naïve to suave and sophisticated. The better comic bits go to Arsenio Hall as the Prince's campy Dandini. Both come into their own doubling minor cameo roles, including a wonderful chorus of aged barber's shop loungers, who are the best part of the film.

John Landis directs the slim affair at a riskily leisurely pace, but with some enjoyment from supporting characters such as James Earl Jones as the King and

CINEMA

Coming to America (15)
Cannon West End, Plaza

Vice Versa (PG)
Odeon Leicester Square

The Runner (PG)
ICA

A Man in Love (18)
Chelsea Cinema, Cannons Piccadilly, Tottenham Court Road

Eriq LaSalle as the Prince's rival for spunky Shari Headley. A socio-psychologist might explain Hollywood's obsession with under elemental myth, involving return to youth. It was implicit in *Back to the Future* and *Peggy Sue Got Married*; and no fewer than four new Hollywood films — *Like Father, Like Son*, *18 Again*, *Vice Versa* and another box office champion, *Big* — involve fathers and sons changing roles.

Vice Versa is, of course, adapted from F. Anstey's old fantasy novel of the same title, twice filmed before, but unaccountably not credited on the present version. Translated to New York and the present day, the father is a testy ageing yuppie and rising divorced from his son's mother.

The script, by Ian La Frenais and Dick Clement, develops some amusing variations on the story, like the infant father's chagrin at watching his mistress lavish her affections on the sexually unrepentant grown-up child; and at being handed over to the smothering custody of the woman with whom, as husband, he was unable



Genial and handsome: Eddie Murphy is hardly stretched playing the fairy-story hero of *Coming to America*

to live. A sub-plot involving a pair of comic villains, trying to steal the talisman that started the trouble, however, wanders rather aimlessly.

The real pleasure of the picture lies in the central performances of the role-switchers. Fred Savage is a likeable little boy, not handicapped by his physical cuteness, and turning in a good comic performance as the fussy, peremp-

tory and Martini-guzzling cut-down father. Judge Reinhold is as amusing as a daffy, impulsive 11-year-old in a matured body, alternately delighting in the unaccustomed privileges (as well as the body hair) of adulthood, and tearfully terrified by the duties.

The best film of the week comes, rather unexpectedly (and four years delayed), from the Ayatollah's Iran. *The Runner* is an

autobiographical recollection from the underprivileged early life of the director, Amir Naderi, who has since emigrated to the United States.

The 13-year-old hero, Amiro, is an orphan living on an abandoned hulk in the harbour and scraping a living on the waterfront, collecting bottles, selling iced water or shining shoes.

In impressionistic, often un-

related scenes, Naderi presents us with just one of the millions of faceless, abandoned infants who hold out their paws for pennies in all the cities of the Third World; and shows us a whole person: proud, honourable, complex, battling, optimistic, moody.

Amiro is a violent little bundle of energy forever running here and there, with a face that is old and calculating but still open to unrestrained boyish excitement when he watches the ships and aeroplanes that set loose his imagination.

Amiro is kept alive by aspirations. He wants to be the best runner in the gang, and he realizes his hunger to write and read. The most thrilling scenes are those in which the child yells into the wind, at the top of his raucous young voice, the alphabet he has just triumphantly mastered.

The film uses stylization and photographic compositions of remarkable beauty (the director of photography was Firuz Maleshadeh) without ever compromising the tough reality of the lives of these unadorned young outcasts; and rises without embarrassment to peaks of high lyricism.

Diane Kurys follows her admired *Coup de Foudre* with *A Man in Love*, a calculated mixture of syrupy romance, cultural chic and sex (further generous helpings of Greta Scacchi) set in the exotic world of international film production, at Cinecittà Studios.

Scacchi plays an aspiring young actress who lands a part in a film about the death of Pavese; and is caught up in a passionate affair with the star (Peter Coyote). In the background are her liaison with a tiresome French director, the death of her mother, and the man's neurotic but loving wife (Jamie Lee Curtis).

Illuminating parallels are evidently intended between the film within the film and the off-screen romance; but the Pavese film is clearly going to turn out dreadful, and the characters by and large are tediously shallow and egocentric.

JAZZ

Versatile showman

Arturo Sandoval
Ronnie Scott's Club

Trumpeter Sandoval, who left Chucho Valdes's band Irakere in 1981, has firmly established himself as a solo artist under the aegis of Dizzy Gillespie. Now that Gillespie carefully rations his surges through the upper register, it is some consolation to see the tradition safe in the hands of the Cuban. Sandoval has also inherited the maestro's taste for old-fashioned showmanship.

In this respect he provides an interesting contrast to the jazz world's other outstanding trumpet virtuoso Wynton Marsalis, in London earlier this month, who almost gives the impression that the public is trespassing on a private rehearsal.

Sandoval, on the other hand, feeds off the audience's reactions, drawing them into each solo and making each concert a communal performance.

His sextet's opening session on Monday was something of a limbering-up exercise, dominated by languid Caribbean set-pieces and Latin percussion. The bebop standards will no doubt come later in his four-week stay.

With the electric rhythm section flowing effortlessly, the leader dominated all the solos, occasionally joining in on percussion. On the ballad "Georgia On My Mind" he even contributed some growing Spanish vocals.

After three numbers marked by some relatively restrained solos, Sandoval demonstrated his versatility by taking over at the piano stool for a duet with his bassist. The medley covered well-worn territory, from "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square" to "Desafinado" and a hint of "As Time Goes By". Sandoval's attack, however, teased out fresh delights with its subtle changes of emphasis and aggressive block-chord climaxes.

Clive Davis

Lost in transit

TELEVISION

There are, I feel sure, richly comic possibilities in the notion of a guided coach tour of the M25; the problem of actually getting all the way round it within one lifetime, for a start. But not many of them emerged in *Burning Ambition* (BBC2), which featured the company Théâtre de Complicité.

This fringe theatre group has been praised as one of the most original finds of recent years, and their zany brand of humour has enlivened and disturbed audiences all over the country. Having seen their leading actor, Simon McBurney, in solo operation I can see the appeal of their quirky, audience-responsive wit.

But it is one thing to have a theatrical style, and quite another to transfer it to the hard and disembodied reality of film.

Without an audience to react against, and without the laughs to support it, *Burning Ambition* was a painfully unfunny affair. Countless routines like the noisy jumps and purses in the waiting room, the ignorant restaurant client and the waitress, and the chaotic motorway service station scene, were all pure improvised theatre which

transferred uneasily to the screen. The plot set up a pair of eccentrics, sacked as coach drivers, who buy their own vehicle and set out around the motorway. Their clients include a pill-popping old lady who subsequently expires, and much fun is had disposing of her, until the other passengers notice and round on the hapless pair. They undergo a show trial in nearby fields and the coach is blown up.

There was scarcely a witty line in the play (except perhaps for the exchange: He: "I'm in business"; She, sexily: "I'm intuitive") because the play was based entirely on acting style rather than on written text. A sad misfire.

After that, the Wodaabe tribe featured on *Disappearing World* (ITV) seemed almost normal: a cheerful set of beautifully made-up men dancing their cares away with joy, in spite of the pressures of the drought and of their nomadic, unsettled life. The male beautifications seemed to be geared to the women making their choice from the specimens on display; but it put art and pride in human beauty right back at the centre of existence, more important than possessions or property, of which the Wodaabe have little.

William Holmes

DANCE

Every one a winner

Australian Ballet
Covent Garden

I cannot remember having seen *Sleeping Beauty* so consistently well danced from beginning to end as it was by the Australian Ballet when opening their Covent Garden season on Tuesday night. There was no individual performance of the quality of a Fonteyn, a Kolpakova or a Kirkland, no Nureyev or Ballew; but once moved down from that international superstar level, these Australian dancers hold their own with all competition.

Maina Gielgud's production sticks firmly and rightly to traditional lines. Her extra choreography discreetly fits its context and shows her dancers at their best, especially the vigorous, stylish garland dance and a scintillating solo for Florestan in Act 3 brilliantly danced by Mark Pace.

Gielgud gives the role of Carabosse to a woman (Sian Stokes at this performance was convincingly malicious) and allows her to triumph in Aurora's bedchamber right until the arrival of Florimund and the Lilac Fairy.

The struggle between good and evil is not so deeply developed as in Nureyev's production, but Carabosse has the most frightening attendant creatures I have seen, almost shapeless beings with bony heads and long sharp beaks.

They are the best of Hugh Colman's designs, although the slinky harem costume for the White Cat runs them close. His main settings are conceived for a sunny climate with their light, open structures, and to many people their conscious prettiness will be the production's weak link.

All the dancers perform with an attractively fresh, open style. They are so strong, confident and accurate in technique that they take it for granted and concentrate on presentation.

There are to be four casts in most leading roles this week. Christine Walsh, the first Aurora, suggests a youthful princess not by mimicking adolescent behaviour but by the fresh, simple directness of her dancing, the smiling ease of her manner, a complete lack of any airs or affectations.

David Ashmore was her Florimund, as handsome in support as in appearance, and tackling his solos with eager pride. David McAllister is a Bluebird who makes the air his natural element, sustaining the height of his jumps equally all the way through.

Among the supporting cast, Mary Duchene and Colin Peasey survive from the Australian Ballet's first season, 25 years ago. Many others represent the company's immensely promising future, among them Anna De Cardi, Linda Ridgway, Kathleen Reid and Lisa Bolte in small solos.

John Percival

Hard-pressed to serve

THEATRE

The Recruiting Officer
Royal Court

Those whose theatrical memories stretch back 25 years will recall the sparkling production of Farquhar's comedy put on in the early weeks of the newly born National Theatre; and they will find few new sources of humour in this latest version of it, nor in its place a provincial life — the play is set in Shrewsbury — nor anger, albeit belated, at the wrongs of impressing yokels to serve in Queen Anne's French wars.

The sharp practices employed by the rascally Sergeant Kite to swell his tally of "volunteers" form one sturdy strand of the comedy, and Max Stafford-Clark's production declines to follow Gaskill's NT example (and Brecht's before him) whereby every line that might conceivably bear a gloss relating to class warfare was emphasized accordingly.

On the other hand, there is a curious lack, surprising in so enterprising a director, of any feel of the crowd — the Mob, as Farquhar calls it. One does not ask for butchers to reveal their trade by having strings of sausages dangling behind them, but apart from young Rose, with her basket brimful of chickens (a lovely, chubby performance by Mossie Smith) we get very little sense that these people have been interrupted going about their ordinary Shropshire business.

For this production, the stage boxes have been reopened, in pleasing homage to the style of Restoration theatres, and Peter Hartwell's design continues the



Soldiers? Lesley Sharp (left) and Ron Cook are not what they seem

panels and cornices further on to the stage where they merge into a skyscape around the anonymous central area, presumably a street in Shrewsbury, with a horse trough in pride of place.

A grand sash window drops in front of this to turn the stage into an interior, and later there is a pretty backdrop of a riverside row of houses. It serves as a setting but adds no more to the sense of place than do the townsfolk muttering from the theatre's aisles.

Farquhar expertly bound a romantic scene in with the recruiting and the two are generally described in terms of one another: erotic manoeuvres employ a language that talks of siege and firing, while the rakish Captain Plume and his rival, the ludicrous Captain Brazen (Ron Cook), greet one another with an infinity of manly kisses.

David Haig makes Plume an interesting hero whose formal, slightly stodgy civilities cannot quite be taken for sincerity. Cocking his head with the attentive movements of a sharp sparrow, he manages to hold the wandering horses of this play fairly on target.

As the girl who loves him and follows him disguised as a soldier, Lesley Sharp has a stubborn set to her lower lip and holds her hands

firmly down in front of her skirt as though she dare not give them their own way or they will be around somebody's throat. It is a fly, almost malevolent portrait and what sparkle it contains goes out of it when she climbs into breeches and lowers her voice.

Linda Bassett gives snooty Melinda a nice-sounding drool and a touching catch in the voice when her cruelty melts. Jim Broadbent, as Kite, delivers his autobiography with suitable stoniness.

And yet, in spite of passing amusements, the production is disjointed and lacking in dramatic surge. From September it is to be paired with another play on a similar theme, and perhaps then the reason for the lacklustre tone of this one will become apparent.

Jeremy Kingston

BBCSO/Pritchard
Albert Hall

The first of the BBC's commissions for the 1988 Proms was unveiled on Tuesday night and, if Jonathan Lloyd's *Symphony No 4* is anything to go by, it looks like being a highly stimulating season.

Not, of course, that it can possibly be anything to go by. Like all Lloyd's writing, it is a work of striking individuality, teeming with invention, audacious, yet movingly discreet, in its orchestration. The line-up this time includes the familiar Lloyd electric guitars, saxophones and drum kits, set into a vast conventional orchestral panoply, loud with every kind of pitched and unpitched percussion, including bell-tree, lion's roar and conga drums.

Pitted against this orchestral extravaganza is minimalism of subject matter — a mere five-finger exercise of a scale, ascending and descending — which is subjected to an intricate web of variation, fragmentation and reconstruction. It starts slowly, weighing time and timelessness like the ebb and flow

of the tide. As it increases in speed, complexity and density, the motif struggles against itself, provoking Rabelaisian outbursts from the louder, more extrovert orchestral quarters.

In the midst of this dream-like phantasmagoria, in which the ear is constantly teased into willing submission, there are masterstrokes of both surprise and recollection whose imaginative sharpness stay long in the memory. There is the little mandolin figure which thumps its way mischievously into a big band chorus; there is the ghost of a conga, glimpsed as in a distorting mirror; there is, as the work winds down, in clusters ever thicker, the hazy echo of café jazz.

The symphony has a coherence and a direction which is deeply felt as well as reasoned; it instructs the ear as much as it entertains it, and it must be heard again soon.

Hilary Finch

WORD-WATCHING

CHICAGO
(a) From the *Alphabet* word best spelled in *Chicago* is *Chicago*, and referring either to the prevalence of wild cats, or to the prevalence of rampant water power, *Chicago*, or to the steam, *Chicago*, in the city.

DUBLIN
(b) The black pool, from the Irish *black pool* = *black pool*. The Irish name is *Black Pool*. It is the town of the first of the *black pools*. Both names refer to the dirty river *Liffey*.

CALCUTTA
(c) *Calcutta*, from the Sanskrit *Kalcutta*, the name of Kali, the viraginal Hindu Goddess, wife of Shiva, of Heron. It might come from Sanskrit *kal* because of the local prevalence of pigs, or from *kal* which means, referring to a local village industry.

CANARIES
(d) The *Canaries* called them the *Canaries Fortunatas*. Spanish explorers in 1492 named them *Las Canarias* the Dog Islands, because of legendary islands of the West said to be populated by men with dogs' heads. When they landed, they heard dogs barking in the underground. The little yellow birds are named after the dogs.

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BOOKS

Lear's tragedy

How pleasant to know Mr Lear! It was not so pleasant, perhaps, to have been him. No one could have had a harder beginning than Edward Lear.

Born in 1812, he was the twentieth child of a defuncting suburban stockbroker. His mother, not surprisingly, hardly noticed his existence, and he was brought up by his eldest sister, Ann, in rented rooms. He was epileptic, asthmatic, short-sighted and sexually abused.

In his teens he began illustrating bird books, and from his mid-twenties, discovering that he could make a living by selling views of foreign scenes, he lived abroad, returning only to sell his pictures to his aristocratic patrons.

In the 1850s he regularly exhibited at the Academy. He gave drawing lessons to Queen Victoria. People were amused by him. Even before he composed any limericks or Nonsense rhymes he had discovered that the best way to deflect ridicule was to be ridiculous.

The vicissitudes of his endless foreign sketching tours - fleas, precipices, malaria, foul food, mulish mules - are documented in the long diary-letters he wrote home to his sister Ann.

As Susan Chitty admits, any biography of Lear is in danger of degenerating into travelogue. She is as succinct as she can be. This is a terse biography. It's not that we need to know any more about Lear, but there is a constrained quality about the writing, as if the author could not decide what she felt about her subject, or whether her story was a tragic or a funny one. It is both.

Lear was an agile social climber, and adept at getting grand friends to pay his bills. He kept his elderly sister ruthlessly out of sight. Ann was poor and shabby, and completely unaware of the nuances of social distinction that meant so painfully much to her brother.

Lear was over-sensitive. If at the end of a country house visit he was taken to the train a little on the early side, his thank you letter would bristle with reproach and recrimination.

Susan Chitty claims to reveal much that is new about Lear's homosexuality, but there seems not much to know. Lear was probably celibate. He fell for conventional public school types, reared to be colonial judges and administrators - minor pillars of Empire.

Victoria Glendinning on the sad, social climbing life of the man who wrote a lot of Nonsense

THAT SINGULAR PERSON CALLED LEAR By Susan Chitty Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £16.95

They were diverted by Lear, and warmed by his affection until it began to embarrass them. Susan Chitty lists at least 13 amiable young chaps who accompanied Lear on his foreign sketching expeditions over the years.

The love of his life was one Frank Lushington, whom he met when he was 36 and Frank 10 years younger. Frank's father had been a judge in Ceylon, and his brother, Harry, was Chief Secretary to the Governor of Malta. The family commonly conversed at the dinner table in Greek when they conversed at all; a feature of evenings with the Lushingtons, most of whom were discontented in one way or another, was the dreadful silence.

Someone not mentioned in any previous biography is George Venables, an arch-deacon's son who was the lover of Frank's brother Harry. Susan Chitty builds Venables up as the villain of her piece, "a sepulchre of the purest white", the man who "contrived to destroy any chance Lear had of happiness with Frank."

The facts are less exciting than this sounds. Lear was keen to endear himself to the whole gloomy Lushington clan so as to stay close to Frank. But when he descended on their country house, ready to play the part of favourite uncle, he found another pseudo-uncle, Mr Venables, already complacently installed, pretending to pay court to the Lushington girls. The two favourite uncles saw through one another straight away.

Lear won the first round, relieving the tense silences by singing, or rather intoning, the lyrics of Tennyson (whom he idolized) to his own piano accompaniment.

The situation has the makings of farce, but Susan Chitty is a responsible biographer and wants us to take the pains of love seriously. Venables' black crime, in her eyes, was to spread the story that Lear was making up to Frank for what he could get out of him - money and prestige.

Frank grew grander and cooler and got married. Lear thought of marrying too. He picked a nice plain woman, the Hon Augusta Bethel, known as Gussie. He courted her tepidly for several years, but the Owl and the Pussy-Cat never, in real life, sailed away - which was just as well for Gussie, since what Lear wanted was her private income and someone to nurse him in his old age. The most solid of his relationships was with his Albanian servant George. Master and man bullied one another on equal terms. The most sympathetic story in this book is of Lear cutting the sick Georgio's toenails.

After years of wandering, Lear finally built himself a villa at San Remo. When a hotel was built between the villa and his view of the sea, he built himself another, identical to the first in every specification, so as not to confuse his cat Foss. He was lonely, sustaining himself by drinking too much and writing letters to his ageing, scattered young chaps.

His topographical paintings had gone out of fashion. Lear was to leave to Frank Lushington hundreds and hundreds of his paintings and drawings.

He used to paint the same views over and over again, obsessively, and the reason why they were pretty cheap until recently is that the market was flooded when Lushington's collection was sold in 1929.

Today, a hundred years after his lonely death in San Remo, Lear's paintings and drawings are once again coveted, and his limericks and Nonsense rhymes, with their Thurber-like illustrations, have proved to be immortal. Like their creator, the Dong with the Luminous Nose and the Pobble who had no Toes are damaged creatures whose desperate sadness is masked by comicality.

"I see life as basically tragic and futile," wrote Lear, "and the only thing that matters is making little jokes."



GLYN BOYD HARTE

A life in the Archer style

Tim Heald

IN FOR A PENNY The Unauthorized Biography of Jeffrey Archer By Jonathan Mantle Hamish Hamilton, £11.95

Say what you like about this book, but you have to admit that the author has managed to acquire his subject's way with words. All serious students of the Archer oeuvre will recognize the derivative nature of such sentences as "Jeffrey was a year old when clothes rationing was introduced". "Every day there was a new celebrity, a new angle, a new conference". "Furthermore, in this case he knew the chap in question", and "The Houses of Parliament were creeping more and more into the background of photographs of Jeffrey". This may not be Archerese at its most authentic and potent, but it is clearly prose from the Archer school of writing.

What are not so clear are the precise sources of the information conveyed by the words. Despite the Archer portrait on the cover, and the authoritative revelations about Jeffrey and clothes rationing, and Jeffrey and the creeping Commons, this is an example of that contemporary phenomenon the "unauthorized biography" of a person not yet dead. It seems from the acknowledgements that Jeffrey, as he is described throughout, initially encouraged the author, advised friends to co-operate with him, and promised an interview. Then he changed his mind.

If so, this suggests a lack first of judgement and then of decisiveness, a bit of a problem for Jeffrey at other times in his life. More crucially, it casts doubts on a number of allegations and innuendoes about the wording of CVs, the writing of books, and the precise role of Mr Cork Smith therein, the nature of confidences, what the Beatles said.

None of this is very important or interesting; but one is always curious about the truth. From this point of view I was mildly intrigued by the implications of obsessive personal ambition coupled with the sort of frenetic energy one normally encounters only in hyperactive children; but there is not much new to be found here either. On the whole I found the photographs more revealing than anything in the text. She really is very pretty in a rather frosty way, and he really can look an awful ass - and incidentally not a bit like Dudley Fishburn, MP.

Recent experiences have, in Mr Mantle's estimate, made Jeffrey "older, grimmer, wiser", but have failed to give him something called "gravitas" although that was, apparently, within his grasp not so very long ago. Can Jeffrey acquire "gravitas" and rule the world, seems to be what really worries this author. On balance the answer appears to be no and that he will have to make do with such enviable compensations as "the fabled laws of the Old Vicarage".

As far as I am concerned there is only one question to which I would really like the answer and which this author doesn't even attempt: "If Jeffrey's books are as ill-written and boring as I think they are, why do so many people enjoy them?" This may be one for the new Lady Antonia think-tank.

NEW HARDBACKS

The Deputy Literary Editor's selection of interesting books: Beckett in the Theatre, by Douglas McMillan and Martha Fehsenfeld (Caldor, £18.95). It is said that Patrick Magee once fell asleep for 20 minutes in mid-Krapp's Last Tape. Everyone assumed it was intentional.

A Renaissance Tapestry - The Gonzaga of Mantua, by Kate Simon (Harrap, £12.95). They brought you humanism, they brought you Machiavelli. Thrill to the original Dynasty.

The Art of War in the Western World, by Archer Jones (Harrap, £7.95). Chapter 5 of which is: The primacy of the line of bayonetted musketeers, 1700-1791. Fascinating stuff on the particulars of killing.

F. Scott Fitzgerald on Writing, edited by Larry W. Phillips (Equation, £7.95). An author ought to write for the youth of his own generation, the critics of the next, and the schoolmasters ever afterwards.

Alexander Pope: Essays for the Tercentenary, edited by Colin Nicholson (Aberdeen University Press, £14.50). 15 essays on our smallest great poet.

The Man Behind the Iron Mask, by John Noone (Alan Sutton, £12.95). The Duke of Mornmouth, Richard Cromwell, Louis XIV's twin, and Moliers have all been contenders for the title. Apparently, it was Eustache Danger, whoever he was.

Never Such Innocence, edited by Martin Stephen (Buchan and Enright, £14.95). A new anthology of Great War verse; the lesser voices as well as the more famous.

Harry Lauder in the Limelight, by William Wallace (The Book Guild, £7.95). Biog of the music hall singer with the bent walking stick.

Daughter of Shanghai, by Tsei Chin (Chatto and Windus, £12.95). Autobiog from actress who starred in The World of Suzie Wong, and later stepped out with Kenneth Tynan.

While the American South continues to produce rich fiction, the contemporary Black South is more rarely represented. John Edgar Wideman's excellent new novel, Reuben, opens up a world which outsiders have barred themselves against, the world of poor black population within a white community.

Reuben himself is an extraordinary, haunting figure: a hunchback, dwarfish black man with rat-like features, who offers the black community his quasi-legal services at a price they can afford. Operating out of a cluttered trailer, he is the shaman and mainstay of those confused by the white man's jurisdiction.

Reuben contemplates eternity, reincarnation, time and motion; he is also obsessed with a doppelgänger, a dead twin who may or may not have existed. A man and a woman weave their sad, violent stories in and out of his consciousness. The woman has lost her child to his deceiving father; the man is caught up in a fraud action but his pre-occupation is the killing of a white man, an act of hatred which may or may not yet have happened.

The novel is written sometimes in the first person, sometimes in the third, sometimes shifting between the two in the same sequence. It slips from dialogue into stream of consciousness, admitting the reader, to some degree, into an unthought-of sensibility and a rich rhythmic language. It dislocates linear time, yet illustrates clearly the individual steps leading with a sense of inevitability to a particular action. Reuben is in the Faulkner

Deep South, deep feelings

FICTION

Gillian Greenwood

REUBEN By John Edgar Wideman Viking, £11.95

DARKNESS IN SUMMER By Takeshi Kaiko Peter Owen, £12.95

THE MAN WHO WENT DOWN WITH HIS SHIP By Hugh Fleetwood Hamish Hamilton, £11.95

tradition, a poetic revelation of action filtered through states of consciousness. Its many themes, fine language and intriguing characterization make it a very impressive novel.

The early Seventies were dark and hung-over years, even when viewed with a rosy hindsight. Takeshi Kaiko's story of Japanese exiles in Europe condenses the sterility and sadness of that period into a personal vision enacted by two floating characters in a desolate mating game.

Darkness in Summer is Takeshi Kaiko's third book and the first to be translated into English. Set for the most part in an unnamed Germany, the novel brings together a freelance Japanese journalist in retreat from Vietnam and a woman student with whom he has had an affair 10 years previously in Japan.

It is a study in alienation and separation from a culture, from the larger world and from any real, passionate relationship. The pair shut out the past and future for the space of a summer in a strange depressing coupling. When not making love, the man sleeps in a haze of schnapps and the woman plays piano, preparing chop suey and pizza with an energy that is dead at its centre. Her inability to impose her mark on even the smallest household object is catalogued with a brittle poignancy which elevates her into a tragic figure.

The novel is beautifully written in a graceful and powerful prose, throwing up image after image to build a picture of stagnation and lethargy and a deep sadness. The breakdown of the author's compatriot exiles is both personal and a metaphor for a more universal fragmentation.

Hugh Fleetwood's collection of five stories, The Man Who Went Down With His Ship, presents a series of characters who struggle to accept the basic truth about their existence.

Mr Fleetwood is a very accomplished story teller, wrapping a relentless pursuit of the true state of affairs in an engrossing narrative. In the title story, a man in his fifties decides to reveal the truth about an event which took place 30 years before. In his attempt to do so he confronts a network of confusing and contradictory feelings about the nature of compromise and guilt.

The struggle to establish or maintain a set of personal and political values continues throughout the book. In "The Nature of Angels" an Italian working-class communist, shored by his political faith, collapses when he becomes infatuated with an upper-class woman for whom he works. In "A Woman of Integrity", Alice despises what her businessman lover represents politically while refusing to reveal to her affluent bohemian friends that she's living in poverty. She fears the pity of herself and others.

The stories catalogue a self-imposed lack of freedom brought about by fear and a need for love. In "The Man Who Loved England", a self-hating young man wrestles with an infatuation which confines him within his ugly self-image. Set in Italy, Egypt, Mexico, Paris and London with a cosmopolitan cast, this collection reveals a close knowledge of humanity and motivation, as its characters manoeuvre through the plots fate designed for them.

A legend in his own Times

John Grigg

MEMORIES OF TIMES PAST



By Louis Heren Hamish Hamilton, £15.95

As a young reporter on The Times before the war, Louis Heren volunteered more often than most for the chore of weekend duty at Printing House Square - the original place, not the modern office block that replaced it, to his chagrin, in the early 1960s. He loved having the old, honoree or less to himself, sleeping in a double bed with "crisp linen sheets" after a shower in the "well-appointed bathroom", being called on Sunday morning with a cup of tea, then having a breakfast of eggs and bacon in the next room while reading the Sunday papers and marking stories worth following up by his seniors.

No wonder he enjoyed the experience. He had come to The Times from an East End slum. His father (who died when he was four) had been a printer on the paper, and he was therefore taken on as a boy messenger when he left school. For him The Times provided a more than adequate substitute for secondary and university education. An assistant editor, C.W. Brodribb, one day spotted him reading Lord Jim in an alcove and mentioned the fact to others. Soon the legendary Stanley Morison began to take an interest in him and helped him to become a reporter.

War service in the army gave him a taste for foreign travel, and when he returned to the paper after the war it was not long before he asked to be sent abroad. For the next 23 years, in a succession of postings, he made his name as one

of the paper's best foreign correspondents. After reporting brilliantly, and often dangerously, from India, the Middle East, Korea, Malaya and Germany, in 1960 he was appointed chief Washington correspondent and American editor. The decade that he spent in this job represents, in reality, the high occupied more exalted places in the hierarchy. One of his first tasks in Washington was to cover the inauguration of John F. Kennedy, and as he collected his embargoed copy of the inaugural speech an excited American colleague said to him, "Well, Limey, this almost beats Churchill". He might have replied that Churchill normally wrote his

own speeches. Heren was privately warned at the time, by the sage Democratic insider David Bruce, not to be taken in by the PR image of Kennedy, and he never became a Camelot courtier, as so many foreign journalists did. He was much closer to Lyndon B. Johnson, but without being blind to his faults. Wherever Heren was, he always maintained his independence of the ruling powers.

In 1970 he returned to London as a deputy editor, and three years later became foreign editor as well. It must have been hard for him to adjust himself to life in England, more especially as his wife died soon after their return. The decade was a hard one for the paper too, with industrial troubles culminating in the 11-month closure of 1978-79. After the sale of the paper to Rupert Murdoch, Heren stayed on briefly as associate editor to Harold Evans. But the combination did not work and he soon retired.

In two earlier autobiographical works he has written about his life to 1937, and about his years as a foreign correspondent. Inevitably there is some overlap in the new and more comprehensive memoir, but much of the material is fresh even for the periods already covered, and the story is brought right up to date.

He has at least some good things to say of all the editors under whom he served, and for the most of them warm, if discriminating, praise. But his hero seems to be Robin Barrington-Ward, with

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Terence Moore, TLS February 12 1988

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TLS THE TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

Wall Street private eye, Timothy Cone, hooks the financial sharks in TIMOTHY'S GAME LAWRENCE SANDERS NEW ENGLISH LIBRARY £11.95

INFORMATION for AUGUST

MONDAY

1 Dance: Dance Theatre of Harlem, Coliseum, London (to 13th); Kirov Ballet, open new theatre at Business Design Centre, Islington, London (to 30th). Events: British Chess Championships, Northbrook Castle Hotel, Blackpool (0253 52341) (to 13th). Galleries: Pietro Longhi (1702-85), National Gallery of Scotland, Edinburgh (to Sept 3rd). Opera: Falstaff, Glyndebourne, Sussex (and 4th, 9th and 12th). Rock: Prince, Wembley Arena (to 3rd). Theatre: Previews of Ring Round the Moon, Chichester Festival Theatre (opens 3rd).

8 Rock: Pink Floyd, Maine Road stadium, Manchester. Theatre: Previews of Stop in the Name of Love, Piccadilly Theatre, London (opens 16th); A Midsummer Night's Dream, Holland Park Open Air Theatre, London (to 20th); Lerner and Loewe's musical Brigadoon opens Theatre Royal, Plymouth (to Sept 10th).

15 Dance: Premiere of Michael Clark's I am Curious, Orange, Kings Theatre, Edinburgh (to 20th); Dance Theatre of Harlem, Theatre Royal, Glasgow (to 20th). Jazz: Sunnerscope Jazz starts with Roadside Picnic, South Bank Concert Halls, London (to 21st). Theatre: B-Movie, Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh (to 20th); The Raz Sisters, St Bride's Centre, Edinburgh (to 20th); Royal Exchange Theatre Company's A Midsummer Night's Dream, Assembly Hall (to Sept 3rd).

22 Dance: Moscow Classical Ballet's Swan Lake, and excerpts from popular ballets, Birmingham Hippodrome (to 27th). Jazz: Djangology with WASH, Fapy Lafertin, Queen's Hall, Edinburgh; Irene Reid/Jackie Sharpe Big Band, Ronnie Scott's, London (to 27th).

29 Events: Auld Lammas Fair, Bailiwick, Co Down (026 57 62024) (and 30th). Festivals: Venice Biennale Film Festival (to Sept 9th). Rock: Michael Jackson, Roundhay Park, Leeds. Theatre: Previews of As You Like It directed by Geraldine McEwan, Phoenix Theatre, London (opens 31st).

TUESDAY

2 Events: Great British Beer Festival, Queen's Hall, Leeds (0727 67201) (to 6th). Festivals: St Erlewine Summer Festival, Cornwall (0840 213242) (to 12th). Opera: La traviata, Glyndebourne, Lewes, Sussex (and 5th, 8th, 11th, 14th, and 17th). Theatre: Previews of The RSC's Hyde Park, The Pit, London (opens 8th).

9 Dance: Kirov Ballet's Le Corsaire, Royal Opera House, London (to 13th); Moscow Classical Ballet's Swan Lake, Business Design Centre, London (to 14th). Sports: Cycling: Kellogg's Tour of Britain Newcastle upon Tyne (to 14th). Theatre: Previews of Modigliani, New End Theatre, London.

16 Concerts: State Orchestra of the USSR under Yevgeny Svetlanov play Rachmaninov and Balakirev, Usher Hall, Edinburgh. Events: Mime artist Marcel Marceau, Sadler's Wells Theatre, London (to Sept 3rd); Royal Horticultural Society summer flower show, Royal Horticultural Halls, London (and 17th). Festivals: Resaro Rossini, Italy (010 63 7 216771) (to Sept 8th); Sante International, Greece (to Sept 7th); Tampere Theatre Summer, Finland (010 358 31 110992) (to 21st). Theatre: Back With a Vengeance with Dame Edna Everage, Theatre Royal, Newcastle (to 20th); Nirascope Theatre's The Tempest, Playhouse Theatre, Edinburgh (to 21st).

23 Concerts: Prom, RAH: New York Philharmonic under Zubin Mehta play Beethoven, and Stravinsky. Dance: Matsuyama's Giselle, Playhouse Theatre, Edinburgh (and 26th and 27th). News: Lighting of the Olympic flame at Hera Temple in Greece. Theatre: Previews of Much Ado About Nothing directed by Judi Dench, Phoenix Theatre, London (opens 25th); Back with a Vengeance with Dame Edna Everage, Kings Theatre, Glasgow (to 27th).

30 Festivals: Danger, Women at Work Performance Festival, Purcell Room, London (to Sept 4th). Galleries: Sir Sidney Nolan, Royal West of England Academy, Bristol (to Oct 1st). Sport: Tennis: US championships, Flushing Meadows, New York (to Sept 11th). Theatre: Back with a Vengeance with Dame Edna Everage, His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen (to Sept 3rd).

WEDNESDAY

3 Galleries: Gainsborough's portraits of the Earl and Countess of Howe, Iveagh Bequest, London (to Oct 30). Opera: Buxton Festival's production of Torquato Tasso, Opera House (and 6th). Theatre: Previews of The Admirable Crichton with Rex Harrison and Edward Fox, Theatre Royal, London (opens 8th).

10 Festivals: Summer Pops Music Festival starts with Randy Crawford, Barbican (to 23rd). Rock: Joan Armatrading, Newport Centre. Sport: Cricket: NatWest Trophy semifinals.

17 Festivals: Lucerne International Festival of Music, Switzerland (010 41 23562) (to Sept 10th). News: Proposed launch of The Sport newspaper. Theatre: Forget-Me-Not-Lane by Peter Nichols, Greenwich Theatre, London (to Oct 1st).

24 Events: Guernsey Battle of Flowers (0481 57883) (and 25th). Opera: British premiere of Roberto de Simone's La Gatta Cenerentola, Kings Theatre, Edinburgh (to 27th). Theatre: National Youth Theatre's Murder in the Cathedral by T S Eliot, St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh (to Sept 2nd).

31 Concerts: Prom, RAH: Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra under Kurt Masur play Mendelssohn, Rachmaninov and Richard Strauss. Theatre: National Youth Theatre's Pacha Mama's Blessing, St Bride's Centre, Edinburgh (to Sept 3rd).

THURSDAY

4 Events: Gun salute, Hyde Park and Tower of London, marking Queen Mother's 88th birthday. Festivals: Youth Drama, Festival Theatre, Chichester (0243 781312) (to 10th). Galleries: L S Lowry (1887-1970), Barbican, London (to Oct 2nd). Sport: Cricket: England v West Indies, Fifth Test, The Oval (to 8th); Golf: Benson and Hedges International, Fulford; and British Women's Open, Lindrick (to 7th); Polo: National 15-goal handicap tournament, Cirencester (to 14th).

11 Concerts: Prom, RAH: Scottish SO under Jerzy Maksymiuk. Events: Jersey Battle of Flowers, Channel Islands (0534 30176). Theatre: Previews of The Fancy Man, by Mike Stott, Hampstead Theatre, London (opens 17th).

18 Concert: Leonard Bernstein 70th birthday tribute, LSO under John Neschling, Barbican, London. Jazz: Lisbon Jazz Sextet, Snape Maltings, Aldeburgh. News: Launch of women's magazine Marie Claire. Opera: Jeffrey Tate conducts Fierrabras, Queen Elizabeth Hall, London (and 20th). Theatre: Previews of Eusby, directed by Jonathan Miller and starring David Threlfall, Old Vic, London (opens 23rd).

25 Concerts: Prom, RAH: BBC Philharmonic under Edward Downes play Mendelssohn. Dance: British premiere of Matsuyama's Mandala, Playhouse Theatre, Edinburgh (and 28th). Jazz: Concord All-Stars, with Scott Hamilton, Queen's Hall, Edinburgh. Opera: British premiere of Turnage's Greek Laith Theatre, Edinburgh (to 27th). Sport: Cricket: England v Sri Lanka, Cornhill Test, Lord's (to 30th).

MILESTONES

- BIRTHDAYS: 1 Lionel Bart, 58; Yves Saint Laurent, 52; Alan Whicker, 63; Lord Murray, 66; Terry Wogan, 50; Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, 88; Neil Armstrong, 59; Robert Milder, 71; Sir Freddie Laker, 66; Nigel Mansell, 35; Esther Williams, 65; Rod Laver, 50; Tam Dayell, 56; Anita Lonsborough, 47; 11 Anna Lassar, 51; Raymond Leppard, 69; 12 Mark Knopfler, 39; Norris McWhirter, 63; Fidel Castro, 62; George Shearing, 69; 14 Sarah Brightman, 27; 15 The Princess Royal, 38; 16 Madonna, 30; Manachin Begin, 75; 17 Robert de Niro, 45; George Melly, 62; 18 Robert Redford, 51; Roman Polanski, 55; 19 Bernard Levin, 60; 20 Rajiv Gandhi, 44; 21 Princess Margaret, 58; Chris Brasher, 60; 22 Karlheinz Stockhausen, 60; Henri Cartier-Bresson, 80; 23 Geoff Capes, 39; Sir Roy Strong, 53; 25 Freddie Forsyth, 50; 26 Duke of Gloucester, 44; 27 Mother Teresa of Calcutta, 78; 28 Lord Curzon, 75; 29 Michael Jackson, 30; Lenny Henry, 30; 30 Denis Healey, 71; John Peel, 49; 31 Richard Gere, 39; Van Morrison, 43.

FRIDAY

5 Events: English Bridge Championships, Brighton (0295 394414) (to 14th). Films: Nic Roeg's The 25 with Gary Oldman, (Friday). Rock: Pink Floyd, Wembley Stadium (and 6th); Prince, NEC, Birmingham. Sport: Athletics: AAA/WAAA Championships, Birmingham (to 7th).

12 Events: Edinburgh Military Tattoo, Edinburgh Castle (031 225 1188) (to Sept 3rd). Films: Shag with Bridget Fonda, Page Hannah, Phoebe Cates, Anna Beth Glash. Galleries: Exhibition of prints by Sir Henry Raeburn (1756-1823), Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh (to Sept 6th). News: Start of the grouse shooting season. Rock: Fairport Convention Annual Reunion, Cropredy, Banbury (and 13th). Theatre: Start of Chichester Festival Theatre Tent Season with Translations (to Sept 15th); Previews of Wuthering Heights, Salisbury Playhouse (opens 18th).

19 Films: Robert Redford's The Milagro Beanfield War; Beatejuca ghostly comedy starring Michael Keaton; King of the Children; Chinese director Chen Kaige; revival of The Manchurian Candidate starring Frank Sinatra. Jazz: Brecon Jazz Festival, Powys (0874 5557) including Loose Tubes, Slim Gaillard and Keith Tippett (to 21st). Opera: Cesare Altini conducts Die Entführung aus dem Serail, Opera House, Buxton (and 20th). Sport: Cricket: Cockerup Cup club Championship final, Lord's.

26 Country Music: All British Country Music Festival, Worthing Pavilion (0903 82000) (to 28th). Films: Rambo III with Sylvester Stallone; Vadim's And God Created Woman; Chris Menges's A World Apart with Barbara Hershey; and Big Business, with Bette Midler and Lily Tomlin. Jazz: Glenn Miller Orchestra, Barbican. Rock: Michael Jackson, Wembley Stadium (and 27th); Reading Festival, with Iggy Pop, Ramones, Squeeze and Meatloaf (to 28th). Sport: Athletics: IAAF Grand Prix final, West Berlin.

SATURDAY

6 Concerts: RPO under Vernon Handley in a mainly English programme, Barbican, London. Events: 37th National Town Criers Championship, St Leonards on Sea (0424 722022). Festivals: Lake District Summer Festival, Ambleside, Cumbria (0625 522668) (to 19th). Photography: Brian Griffin exhibition, Stills Gallery, Edinburgh (to Sept 17th). Rock: Joan Armatrading, Apollo Hippodrome.

13 Festivals: Edinburgh Film Festival (031 228 6382) (to 28th). Opera: Folkopera of Stockholm's production of Turandot (in Swedish), Leith Theatre, Edinburgh (to 19th). Sport: Football: International four-club tournament (Spurs, Arsenal, Bayern Munich and AC Milan) Wembley (and 14th).

20 Events: World Square Dancing Convention, Picketts Lock, London (01-803 4755) (and 21st). Jazz: Lee Konitz (right), starts Edinburgh Jazz Festival (to 27th) (031 357 1642). Rock: Castle Dorington Monsters of Rock Festival.

27 Country Music: Peterborough Country Festival headlined by Ricky Skaggs (0733 63311) (to 29th). Jazz: Bude Jazz Festival, Cornwall headlined by Humphrey Lyttelton (0288 2036/021 459 0689) (to Sept 3rd). News: Olympic torch arrives in Chaju Island, South Korea. Opera: Prom, RAH: Glyndebourne's production of Falstaff, London. Sport: Racing: Waterford Crystal Mile, Goodwood.

ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Death of painter Thomas Gainsborough (1768)
6 Death of Pope Paul VI (1978)
7 Liter Act came into force (1548)
9 Cliff Richard signed his first recording contract (1958)
13 Birth of TV pioneer John Logie Baird (1888)
15 Birth of T.E. Lawrence (1888)
19 Hungerford Massacre (1897)
20 Russian troops invaded Czechoslovakia (1968)
21 Assassination of Benigno Aquino, husband of the Philippines current president (1983)
22 Death of Jomo Kenyatta, first president of Kenya (1978)
26 Death of composer Ralph Vaughan Williams (1958)
28 Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech for black equality, Washington (1963)
31 Gary Sobers became the first cricketer to hit six sixes with six balls 1968; Jack the Ripper claimed his first victim 1888

SUNDAY

7 Concerts: Royal Philharmonic in the last Waterside Concert of the season, Marble Hill, Twickenham. Events: London Riding Horse Parade, Rotten Row (01-761 5651). News: Launch of Scotland on Sunday newspaper. Opera: Prom, Royal Albert Hall: Monteverdi Choir semi-staged production of Debussy's Pelléas et Mélisande. Rock: Joan Armatrading, Apollo Theatre, Oxford. Sport: Motor Racing: Hungarian Grand Prix.

14 Concerts: Scottish National Orchestra under Neelvi in the opening concert Edinburgh Festival, Usher Hall. Events: International Birdman Rally, Bognor Regis Pier (0243 824223); Westminster Mile Race, Whitehall, London. Sport: Cycling: Finish of the Kellogg's Tour of Britain, Whitehall, London. Festivals: Edinburgh International Festival (031 226 4001) (to Sept 5th); Edinburgh Fringe Festival (031 226 6257) (to Sept 3rd).

21 Events: Festival of Fireworks, Blackpool (0253 25212) (to 29th). Festivals: Three Choirs (Hereford, Gloucester and Worcester), Hereford Cathedral (0432 263107) (to 26th). Opera: Prom, RAH: Bellini's I Capuleti ed i Montecchi, London. Sport: Cycling: World track championships, Belgium (to 28th). Theatre: Nieuw Ensemble Raamteater of Antwerp's Trafford Tanzi, St Bride's Centre, Edinburgh (to 24th).

28 Concerts: Kenny Ball and Humphrey Lyttelton in last Kenwood Lakeside concert of season, Hampstead, London. Events: Beatles Convention, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool (051 236 9391) (and 29th); Notting Hill Carnival, London (01-620 5265) (and 29th). Rock: New York City Gay Men's Chorus (Aids Benefit) Piccadilly Theatre, London. Sport: Cycling: World Road Race Championships, Belgium; Motor Racing: Belgian Grand Prix, Spa-Francorchamps.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1627

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes solutions for 1-23.

Penelope Keith: 'I WAS NEVER BEEN THERE'... THE DEEP BLUE SEA... THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA... THE COMMON PURSUIT... THE FIFTEEN STREETS... THE MOUSETRAP

THE DEEP BLUE SEA... THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA... THE COMMON PURSUIT... THE FIFTEEN STREETS... THE MOUSETRAP

CAN-CAN... UNCLE YANYA... THE FOREVER... THE MOUSETRAP

ENTERTAINMENTS

ENTERTAINMENTS: EVENTS, OPERA & BALLET, THEATRES, LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET

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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Jane Rackham

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Facing up to the future



Black outlook: Scum (centre on motorbike), one of eight young people talking about survival in the enterprise culture of Thatcher's Britain, finds it difficult to settle down (C4, 10.00pm)

● The first in a series of film documentaries being screened under the umbrella title of True Stories, Maggie's Children (Channel 4, 10.00pm) opens with Alastair Burnet clapping his hands with un-dignified pleasure as the announced 1987 General Election result and an assertion from Mrs Thatcher that "the spirit of enterprise is back and young people are doing fantastically well". Most of the young people featured in Maggie's Children, filmed over a six-month period in Leeds, would dispute her judgement. The theme of the film is that Thatcherite enterprise culture, with its emphasis on hard work and material rewards, is fine for some but tends to leave many others behind. At the one extreme is Gary, a 23-year-old insurance salesman with his car phone and company Rover who lives, breathes and eats the proposition that we all start with the same talents (that is,

TELEVISION CHOICE

two arms, two legs and a head) and if we fail to make the best of them, that is up to us. At the other end of the spectrum is an unemployed punk who calls himself Scum, struggling to maintain his girlfriend (also unemployed) and baby in a damp, one-room council flat. But of the eight or so case studies interwoven in the film, the one that seems most to refute the Thatcherite ethic is that of Jill, a student midwife. She is neither work-shy nor does she lack dedication but like many a nurse she is coming to the conclusion that her efforts deserve to be better rewarded. When she is offered the chance to do kioskograms and modelling, with the possibility of earning £150 an hour, she needs little persuading. The kioskogram king, one Lorenzo, is clearly another young person who is doing fantastically well. The makers of the film, David Hall and Kees Ryninks, present their material without commentary or comment. The young people of Thatcher's Leeds are left to speak for themselves, not always, it must be said, coherently. But if the film is apparently a reflection of real life, it is at the same time highly constructed and at the end of it the viewer must ask how representative or accurate a portrait it is.

Peter Waymark

A man for one season

● If you are pessimistic enough to equate middle-age with autumn and not late summer, you will be sympathetic to the despairing mood of Stewart Love's play The Slide-Rule Engineer (Radio 4, 3.00pm). No hint here of Keats's season of mists and mellow fruitfulness. Instead, all is fog and hollow fruitlessness. Essentially, this is a modern morality story with the universal message that it's no good telling the world to stop because you want to get off. But specifically, The Slide-Rule Engineer is an interrupted soliloquy by a Belfast shipyard engineer who, declared redundant and thrown on to the scrapheap while still in his forties, looks back on a lifetime of changes he has always found it hard to adapt to. His old slide-rule is a symbol of the rightness and immutability of things. With the arrival of the pocket calculator and infringements of the family moral code such as his daughter's decision to go and live with her boyfriend,

RADIO CHOICE



A man with a dream: Martin Luther King (R4, 7.30pm)

his world starts turning upside-down and from now on, he tells himself, he is taking no further part in Man's voyage through the universe. You

might think he throws in the sponge too soon. If so, you will begin to lose patience both with him and the play. I advise you not to, because the sensitivity of Love's writing, obvious from the very start of the play, is to achieve its apotheosis in the closing seconds. ● With the summer repeats season now in full swing (no complaints from me provided quality is the sole criterion) we can again enjoy The Dream (Radio 4, 7.30pm). Sally Hardcastle's comprehensive assessment of the impact and legacy of Martin Luther King's Anything You Can Do (Radio 4, 8.30pm). Piers Bishopp's lovingly conceived feature on the golden age of steam engines like the record-breaking Mallard; and finally On the Edge of Certainty (Radio 3, 9.05pm). Raymond Tallis's highly imaginative odyssey through the mind of the dying philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein.

Peter Davalle

BBC1

- 6.00 Ceefax AM. News headlines, weather, travel and sports bulletins.
6.35 Leon Errol in Mail Trouble (b/w). 6.55 Weather.
7.00 Breakfast Time with Jeremy Paxman and Sally James. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25; regional news and travel reports at 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27.
8.35 Buck Rogers (b/w). Episode four of the 12-part wacky adventure series starring Larry 'Buster' Crabbe. 8.55 Regional news and weather.
9.00 News and weather. 9.05 First Trial introduced by Andy Crane beginning with The Pink Panther Show. Three cartoons (r). 9.25 Harbeat. Tony Hart's original approach to better picture making (r). (Ceefax) 9.30 Laurel and Hardy. Cartoon.
10.00 News and weather followed by Sisa. Drama serial about the adventures of a young man who runs away from a circus (r). (Ceefax) 10.30 Play School presented by Liz Watts and Fred Harris (r). 10.55 Five to Eleven. Anne Harvey with a reading.
11.00 News and weather followed by Cartoon 11.10 Undersea Kingdom (b/w). Episode two of the 12-part vintage cliffhanger serial starring 'Crash' Corigan. 11.30 Superman comes to the assistance of a young boy who becomes involved with aliens. Starring George Reeves.
12.00 News and weather followed by The Garden Party. Among today's guests are Jackie Stewart and his son Paul. They talk to Mavis Nicholson. 12.45 Regional news and weather.
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather. 1.30 Newsnight. Charles is worried that David's ardour for Madge is cooling.

BBC2

- 6.55 Open University: Social Science - Poverty. Ends at 7.30.
9.00 Ceefax.
1.30 Check-a-Block (r).
1.35 Sign Extra. An edition of Tomorrow's World adapted for the hearing impaired.
2.00 News and weather followed by The Collectors. George Thomson and his collection of butterflies (r).
2.15 Curious Goodwood and Show Jumping. Julian Wilson introduces coverage of the 2.30, 3.15, 3.40 (Schweppes Golden Mile) and 4.10 races; David Vine is at Hickstead for the Silk Cut Tankard. Jump-off against the clock. Includes news and weather at 3.00 and 3.50.
6.00 Film: Bad Abbott and Lou Costello in Hollywood (1945, b/w). The two comedians take Hollywood by storm when they take it upon themselves to turn a successful young crooner into a movie star. Directed by S. Sylvan Simon.
7.20 Cartoon Two: The Hat, with voices and music by Dizzy Gillespie and Dudley Moore (r).

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am begins with The Morning Patrol produced by Mike Morris; 7.00 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Mike Morris; 8.50 Wacadey with Timmy Mallett.
9.25 Themed news.
9.30 Password. Word association game hosted by Gordon Burns. The celebrity guests are Nicholas Parsons and Rusty Lee.
10.00 All Our Yesterdays. 5.05 Move It featuring the first National Junior Off-Road Radio Control championships on the beaches of St Anne's on the Fylde coast.
10.05 Six O'Clock News with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell.
10.10 London Pass.
10.15 Top of the Pops.
10.20 EastEnders. The Beales and the Fowlers are thrown into an emotional turmoil by a discovery made by Pauline.
10.30 Brainstorm. The last in the series of science game shows. (Ceefax)
10.35 Broad. Comedy series about a Liverpudlian family coping with unemployment in an inspired manner (r). (Ceefax)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Nicholas Witchell and Andrew Harvey. Regional news and weather.
9.30 The Mercer Play: Shooting the Chancellor, starring Denholm Elliott and Edward Fox. Drama about a chance meeting in 1945 Czechoslovakia between two members of the Russian armed forces, once a professor and his student, that turns into a battle of wits (r). (Ceefax)
11.05 Esther interviews... child abuse expert Dr Hendrick Carwell.
11.35 The Thin Man (b/w) starring Michael Rennie as Harry Lime. Harry goes to Paris to investigate the mysterious silence of a business partner (r).
12.00 Weather.

CHANNEL 4

- 12.00 Just 4 Fun (r).
12.30 Business Daily. Financial and business news service presented by Susannah Simons.
1.00 Seaside Street. Pre-school learning series. The guest is Anthony Quinn.
2.00 The Parliament Programme presented by Alastair Stewart.
2.30 Film: The Lady With a Lamp (1951, b/w) starring Anna Neagle. About the heroine of the Crimean War, Florence Nightingale. Directed by Herbert Wilcox.
4.30 Mago's Problem Child.
4.30 Countdown. Today's challenger is Jackie Griffiths, a catering assistant from Brimington near Chesterfield. Richard Whitley is the questionmaster assisted by Gyles Brandstetter.
5.00 Film: Looking on the Bright Side (1932, b/w) starring Grace Fields and Richard Dolman. Musical comedy about a musician who falls in love with a singer's boyfriend. Directed by Basil Dean and Graham Curtis.
6.30 Athletics. The English Schools Milk Championships from Yeovil Recreation Centre.
7.00 Channel 4 news with Nicholas Owen and Sue Carpenter.
7.50 Postcards and Weather.
8.00 Open House and Open Animals. Part nine of Lee and Gerald Durrell's 12-programme series on how animals communicate in their natural habitats.
8.30 The Inner-City Philadelphie church starring Sherman Hemsley and Clifton Davis. This evening Thelma is beside herself with grief over the death of her son.
9.00 Goya. The first of a new six-part dramatization of the life of the celebrated Spanish painter. Directed by Eric Masip. (Oracle)
10.00 True Stories: Maggie's Children. (Oracle) (see Choice)
11.35 Film: The Experimenter (1977). Michael Kohler's story, filmed over a period of seven years, following a young 'learner' on his search for understanding and harmony. Ends at 1.55am.

VARIATIONS

- 1.30-2.30 Country Practice 6.00-6.30 News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. News 9.30-10.00 AM. News 10.00-10.30 AM. News 10.30-11.00 AM. News 11.00-11.30 AM. News 11.30-12.00 AM. News 12.00-12.30 AM. News 12.30-1.00 AM. News 1.00-1.30 AM. News 1.30-2.00 AM. News 2.00-2.30 AM. News 2.30-3.00 AM. News 3.00-3.30 AM. News 3.30-4.00 AM. News 4.00-4.30 AM. News 4.30-5.00 AM. News 5.00-5.30 AM. News 5.30-6.00 AM. News 6.00-6.30 AM. News 6.30-7.00 AM. News 7.00-7.30 AM. News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. News 9.30-10.00 AM. News 10.00-10.30 AM. News 10.30-11.00 AM. News 11.00-11.30 AM. News 11.30-12.00 AM. News 12.00-12.30 AM. News 12.30-1.00 AM. News 1.00-1.30 AM. News 1.30-2.00 AM. News 2.00-2.30 AM. News 2.30-3.00 AM. News 3.00-3.30 AM. News 3.30-4.00 AM. News 4.00-4.30 AM. News 4.30-5.00 AM. News 5.00-5.30 AM. News 5.30-6.00 AM. News 6.00-6.30 AM. News 6.30-7.00 AM. News 7.00-7.30 AM. News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. News 9.30-10.00 AM. News 10.00-10.30 AM. News 10.30-11.00 AM. News 11.00-11.30 AM. News 11.30-12.00 AM. News 12.00-12.30 AM. News 12.30-1.00 AM. News 1.00-1.30 AM. News 1.30-2.00 AM. News 2.00-2.30 AM. News 2.30-3.00 AM. News 3.00-3.30 AM. News 3.30-4.00 AM. News 4.00-4.30 AM. News 4.30-5.00 AM. News 5.00-5.30 AM. News 5.30-6.00 AM. News 6.00-6.30 AM. News 6.30-7.00 AM. News 7.00-7.30 AM. News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. News 9.30-10.00 AM. News 10.00-10.30 AM. News 10.30-11.00 AM. News 11.00-11.30 AM. News 11.30-12.00 AM. News 12.00-12.30 AM. News 12.30-1.00 AM. News 1.00-1.30 AM. News 1.30-2.00 AM. News 2.00-2.30 AM. News 2.30-3.00 AM. News 3.00-3.30 AM. News 3.30-4.00 AM. News 4.00-4.30 AM. News 4.30-5.00 AM. News 5.00-5.30 AM. News 5.30-6.00 AM. News 6.00-6.30 AM. News 6.30-7.00 AM. News 7.00-7.30 AM. News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. 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News 3.30-4.00 AM. News 4.00-4.30 AM. News 4.30-5.00 AM. News 5.00-5.30 AM. News 5.30-6.00 AM. News 6.00-6.30 AM. News 6.30-7.00 AM. News 7.00-7.30 AM. News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. News 9.30-10.00 AM. News 10.00-10.30 AM. News 10.30-11.00 AM. News 11.00-11.30 AM. News 11.30-12.00 AM. News 12.00-12.30 AM. News 12.30-1.00 AM. News 1.00-1.30 AM. News 1.30-2.00 AM. News 2.00-2.30 AM. News 2.30-3.00 AM. News 3.00-3.30 AM. News 3.30-4.00 AM. News 4.00-4.30 AM. News 4.30-5.00 AM. News 5.00-5.30 AM. News 5.30-6.00 AM. News 6.00-6.30 AM. News 6.30-7.00 AM. News 7.00-7.30 AM. News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. News 9.30-10.00 AM. News 10.00-10.30 AM. News 10.30-11.00 AM. News 11.00-11.30 AM. News 11.30-12.00 AM. News 12.00-12.30 AM. News 12.30-1.00 AM. News 1.00-1.30 AM. News 1.30-2.00 AM. News 2.00-2.30 AM. News 2.30-3.00 AM. News 3.00-3.30 AM. News 3.30-4.00 AM. News 4.00-4.30 AM. News 4.30-5.00 AM. News 5.00-5.30 AM. News 5.30-6.00 AM. News 6.00-6.30 AM. News 6.30-7.00 AM. News 7.00-7.30 AM. News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. News 9.30-10.00 AM. News 10.00-10.30 AM. News 10.30-11.00 AM. News 11.00-11.30 AM. News 11.30-12.00 AM. News 12.00-12.30 AM. News 12.30-1.00 AM. News 1.00-1.30 AM. News 1.30-2.00 AM. News 2.00-2.30 AM. News 2.30-3.00 AM. News 3.00-3.30 AM. News 3.30-4.00 AM. News 4.00-4.30 AM. News 4.30-5.00 AM. News 5.00-5.30 AM. News 5.30-6.00 AM. News 6.00-6.30 AM. News 6.30-7.00 AM. News 7.00-7.30 AM. News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. News 9.30-10.00 AM. News 10.00-10.30 AM. News 10.30-11.00 AM. News 11.00-11.30 AM. News 11.30-12.00 AM. News 12.00-12.30 AM. News 12.30-1.00 AM. News 1.00-1.30 AM. News 1.30-2.00 AM. News 2.00-2.30 AM. News 2.30-3.00 AM. News 3.00-3.30 AM. News 3.30-4.00 AM. News 4.00-4.30 AM. News 4.30-5.00 AM. News 5.00-5.30 AM. News 5.30-6.00 AM. News 6.00-6.30 AM. News 6.30-7.00 AM. News 7.00-7.30 AM. News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. News 9.30-10.00 AM. News 10.00-10.30 AM. News 10.30-11.00 AM. News 11.00-11.30 AM. News 11.30-12.00 AM. News 12.00-12.30 AM. News 12.30-1.00 AM. News 1.00-1.30 AM. News 1.30-2.00 AM. News 2.00-2.30 AM. News 2.30-3.00 AM. News 3.00-3.30 AM. News 3.30-4.00 AM. News 4.00-4.30 AM. News 4.30-5.00 AM. News 5.00-5.30 AM. News 5.30-6.00 AM. News 6.00-6.30 AM. News 6.30-7.00 AM. News 7.00-7.30 AM. News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. News 9.30-10.00 AM. News 10.00-10.30 AM. News 10.30-11.00 AM. News 11.00-11.30 AM. News 11.30-12.00 AM. News 12.00-12.30 AM. News 12.30-1.00 AM. News 1.00-1.30 AM. News 1.30-2.00 AM. News 2.00-2.30 AM. News 2.30-3.00 AM. News 3.00-3.30 AM. News 3.30-4.00 AM. News 4.00-4.30 AM. News 4.30-5.00 AM. News 5.00-5.30 AM. News 5.30-6.00 AM. News 6.00-6.30 AM. News 6.30-7.00 AM. News 7.00-7.30 AM. News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. News 9.30-10.00 AM. News 10.00-10.30 AM. News 10.30-11.00 AM. News 11.00-11.30 AM. News 11.30-12.00 AM. News 12.00-12.30 AM. News 12.30-1.00 AM. News 1.00-1.30 AM. News 1.30-2.00 AM. News 2.00-2.30 AM. News 2.30-3.00 AM. News 3.00-3.30 AM. News 3.30-4.00 AM. News 4.00-4.30 AM. News 4.30-5.00 AM. News 5.00-5.30 AM. News 5.30-6.00 AM. News 6.00-6.30 AM. News 6.30-7.00 AM. News 7.00-7.30 AM. News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. News 9.30-10.00 AM. News 10.00-10.30 AM. News 10.30-11.00 AM. News 11.00-11.30 AM. News 11.30-12.00 AM. News 12.00-12.30 AM. News 12.30-1.00 AM. News 1.00-1.30 AM. News 1.30-2.00 AM. News 2.00-2.30 AM. News 2.30-3.00 AM. News 3.00-3.30 AM. News 3.30-4.00 AM. News 4.00-4.30 AM. News 4.30-5.00 AM. News 5.00-5.30 AM. News 5.30-6.00 AM. News 6.00-6.30 AM. News 6.30-7.00 AM. News 7.00-7.30 AM. News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. News 9.30-10.00 AM. News 10.00-10.30 AM. News 10.30-11.00 AM. News 11.00-11.30 AM. News 11.30-12.00 AM. News 12.00-12.30 AM. News 12.30-1.00 AM. News 1.00-1.30 AM. News 1.30-2.00 AM. News 2.00-2.30 AM. News 2.30-3.00 AM. News 3.00-3.30 AM. News 3.30-4.00 AM. News 4.00-4.30 AM. News 4.30-5.00 AM. News 5.00-5.30 AM. News 5.30-6.00 AM. News 6.00-6.30 AM. News 6.30-7.00 AM. News 7.00-7.30 AM. News 7.30-8.00 AM. News 8.00-8.30 AM. News 8.30-9.00 AM. News 9.00-9.30 AM. News 9

| MARKETS | | THE POUND | |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| FT 30 Share | 1478.8 (+5.8) | US dollar | 1.7285 (+0.0150) |
| FT-SE 100 | 1840.8 (+3.1) | W German mark | 3.1917 (+0.0046) |
| USM (Datastream) | 167.01 (+0.27) | Trade-weighted | 76.5 (+0.3) |

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

David S Smith tops £30m

David S Smith (Holdings), the packaging and paper group which recently moved into magazine publication and exhibition organisation, raised pretax profits from £24.2 million to £30.7 million on a turnover of £268.3 million (£201.2 million) in the year ended April.

The final dividend is up from 3.5p to 4.9p a share, making 7p (5.25p) for the year.

The shares, which in 1983 traded at 50p, yesterday eased 6p to 360p.

Tempus, page 22

WCRS ahead

Pretax profits at WCRS, the advertising and media services group, jumped 81 per cent to £18.2 million. Earnings per share rose 33 per cent to 23.4p, and the dividend was increased 30 per cent to 3.95p net for the year.

Tempus, page 22

City Site buy

City Site Estates is paying £28.8 million for Stockley House, adjacent to London's Victoria Station. The office building produces £1.3 million rental income.

STOCK MARKETS

| | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------|
| New York | Dow Jones | 2076.84 (+2.67) |
| Tokyo | Nikkei Average | 27738.57 (+434.81) |
| Hong Kong | Hang Seng | 2865.23 (+9.51) |
| Amsterdam | Gen | 278.3 (+2.7) |
| Sydney | AO | 1612.4 (-5.1) |
| Frankfurt | Commerzbank | 1478.4 (+6.0) |
| Bonn | General | 4895.9 (+2.8) |
| Paris | CAC | 3529.0 (+12.0) |
| Zurich | SKA Gen | 465.7 (+0.1) |
| London | FT-A All-Share | 958.99 (+0.79) |
| | FT-300 | 1048.48 (+2.50) |
| | FT-100 | 228.4 (-3.6) |
| | FT-100 Index | 97.42 (+0.02) |
| | FT Govt Secs | 87.84 (+0.04) |

Recent issues Page 24
Closing prices Page 25

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

| | | |
|------------------|--------------|--|
| REBS: | | |
| Tate & Lyle | 880p (+21p) | |
| JA Dev | 3520p (+25p) | |
| Morland | 565p (+28p) | |
| Brown Shipley | 385p (+18p) | |
| American Intl | 470p (+25p) | |
| G Oils | 224p (-3.6) | |
| UK Land | 500p (+25p) | |
| BPP | 330p (+15p) | |
| Kentish Property | 1550p (+10p) | |
| Sturge | 710p (+17p) | |
| Arcland | 1610p (+10p) | |
| Reed Intl | 443p (+14p) | |
| Enterprise | 482p (+10p) | |

FALLS

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Lloyds | 180p (-12p) |
| Schroders | 3000 (-25p) |
| Net West | 588p (-12p) |
| Morgan Grenfell | 3020p (-11p) |
| Whitbread Inv | 3970p (-10p) |
| Int Thomson | 555p (-10p) |
| Carlton Comm | 755p (-10p) |

Closing prices 2188s.

INTEREST RATES

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| London Bank Base | 10 1/4% |
| 3-month interbank 10 1/4% | 10 1/4% |
| 3-month eligible bills | 10 1/4% |
| buying rate | |
| US Prime Rate | 5 1/4% |
| Federal Funds | 7 1/4% |
| 3-month Treasury Bills | 9.94-9.93% |
| 30-year bonds | 9 1/2-9 1/4% |

CURRENCIES

| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| London: | New York: |
| £ \$1.7285 | £ \$1.7275 |
| £ DM1.8487 | £ DM1.8487 |
| £ Sfr1.5355 | £ Sfr1.5355 |
| £ FF6.2240 | £ FF6.2240 |
| £ Yen131.53 | £ Yen131.53 |
| £ Index: 76.5 | £ Index: 76.5 |
| ECU 10.622902 | SDR 10.759138 |

GOLD

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| London Fixing: | AM \$431.70 pm \$432.85 |
| close | \$432.75-433.25 (2250.00-2250.81) |
| New York: | Comex \$433.00-433.50 |

NORTH SEA OIL

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| Brent (Sept) | pm \$15.30/bbl (\$15.33) |
|--------------|--------------------------|

* Denotes latest trading price

THE TIMES STOCK WATCH

0898 141 141

● Market news on Stockwatch yesterday included: Read International (02412) jumped 18p on active buying; JA Devenish (01977) leapt 23p on bid speculation; Midland Bank (02469) fell 9p and Mountleigh (02771) shed 12p on disappointing results

● Havelock Europa (03406) is available from today. Other recent additions include: City of London Public Relations 03352; Hilcare 03355; Severfield-Reeve 03366; BMSS 03376.

● Calls charged 5p for 8 seconds peak, 12 seconds off peak inc. VAT.

Rate pressure eases despite £1bn deficit

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Pressure for another rise in base rates eased yesterday, despite trade figures that point to a current account deficit of well over £10 billion this year.

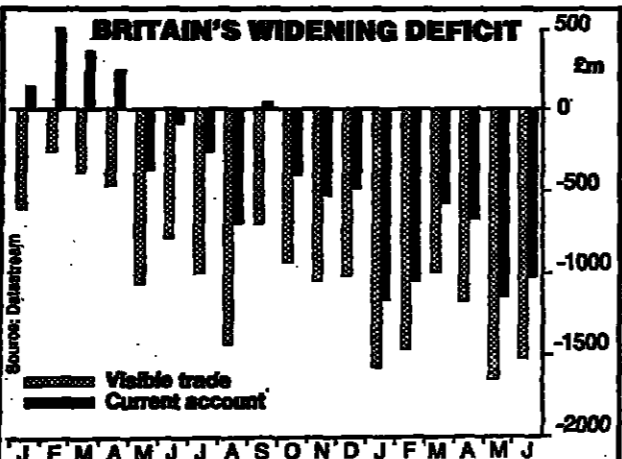
The pound rose in spite of a £1.02 billion current account deficit for June, helped by adverse dollar reaction to US gross national product data.

Dealers said that while base rates were likely to rise this year, there was now a possibility of a moratorium on rate rises over the summer, as the effects of the six increases in rates since June are allowed to work on the economy.

They gave warning, however, that any shift in sentiment on sterling would force up base rates quickly.

The pound was marked down on the trade figures, which were more than £200 million worse than central market expectations. But it ended with overall gains, on the day, particularly against the dollar.

It rose by 1.5 cents to \$1.7285 and by half a penny to DM3.1919. The dollar fell



US economy growth slows

From A Correspondent, Washington

The US economy, as measured by the gross national product, grew 3.1 per cent in the second quarter - slower than markets had expected.

But inflation, as measured by the closely-watched price deflator, was up sharply by 4.1 per cent, the largest increase since 1984.

US stocks moved sharply lower, following release of the new data which revealed that the inflation rate was double that of the first quarter of the year.

Markets were also unnerved by earlier reports that pay is increasing at the fastest pace in three years.

There is concern that there could be an acceleration of inflation as workers demand higher wages. For the year ended in July, labour costs in private industry rose 4.5 per cent.

The 3.1 rise in GNP in the second quarter was lower than market estimates, which had ranged as high as 4.4 per cent.

It compared with revised GNP growth in the first quarter of 3.4 per cent and with a 5 per cent rise in the second quarter of 1987.

US officials also released annual revisions to GNP which revealed that US personal savings have been lower than reported in each of the past three years.

First dividend rise since 1985



Strong ratios: Sir Kit announcing the good news yesterday (Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

Midland revives with £313m interim profit

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Midland Bank yesterday announced its first dividend increase since 1985 after racing back into the black with interim pretax profits of £313 million compared with a £665 million loss after special bad debt provisions last year.

The result to June 30 was in the middle of City expectations, but still proved to be a 25 per cent increase on last year's figure if the special provisions are excluded. The interim dividend rises by 10 per cent, from 8.6p to 9.5p.

The profit advance was mainly due to strong growth in domestic banking where profits rose 21 per cent from £211 million to £257 million.

Since launching its special-ized corporate banking service six months ago it had attracted 500 clients from competitors. Net interest margins remained unchanged from last year at 5.1 per cent despite increasingly competitive conditions, while provisions against bad debts in Britain fell sharply to 1.4 per cent of British lending.

Profits from Midland Montagu, the investment banking and treasury division, shot up from £2 million to £63 million, reflecting lower losses from the closure last year of the equity broking and market-making operation.

Sir Kit McMahon, chairman and chief executive, said the results were very satisfactory and that the bank's capital ratios were strong. Under new international capital requirements, Midland's risk asset ratio is about 11 per cent, against the 8 per cent minimum.

Provisions against Third World debt increased only slightly to a total of 31 per cent of loans, which Sir Kit said was adequate. More than £40 million in interest still owed by Brazil and Argentina could be paid back before the end of this year, although the improving situation with Brazil was offset by a worsening position in Argentina. "We will certainly be supporting the new Brazilian debt re-scheduling package," he said.

Tempus, page 22

Williams in £500m bid plan for Yale

By Cliff Feltham

Mr Nigel Rudd's Williams Holdings, the industrial group, has declared its interest in making an agreed £500 million-plus takeover bid for Yale & Valor, the multinational locks and heating group.

So far, Williams has only confirmed that it has a 3.9 per cent stake in the Birmingham-based company, but it is understood talks have taken place between the two sides, at which Mr Rudd's company made it clear it was keen on launching a recommended offer.

Shares in Yale & Valor have risen from a low of 226p earlier this year to 480p yesterday, a gain of 7p on the day, as speculation mounted that a takeover battle is about to break out for the company. Last night, a spokesman for Williams declined to comment on the reports.

The prospect of a tug-of-war for Yale & Valor now appears likely - particularly as Ingersoll-Rand, the American security group, has built up a 2.6 per cent shareholding and also entered into talks with the company.

Yesterday, Mr Michael Montague, the Yale & Valor chairman, said: "Two companies have reflected their interest in us by taking share stakes. It is now up to them. I am absolutely open-minded. I have to listen to what is in people's minds and then do what is in the shareholders' best interests."

"The interest being shown in us is very flattering. Normally, a chairman says he is going to remain independent, come what may, but I think that is foolish. I have to act in the best interests of everybody."

"One of the companies which has approached us does not want to make a hostile bid but might do so. I suppose this depends on what the other company decides to do. I don't think that a hostile bid is imminent but I might be wrong."

The acquisitive Williams Holdings has been diversifying into consumer and building-related products in recent years and would be keen to pull off a deal which gains access to the American market. The bulk of Yale & Valor's profits are generated from its US-based operations.

There is City speculation that Williams would be prepared to pay a good premium for Yale & Valor in order to avoid another contested bid, with some analysts suggesting an offer close to £6 if it decides to go ahead.

Maxwell quits fight for Argus

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Mr Robert Maxwell, chairman of Maxwell Communication Corporation, has pulled out of the auction for Argus Press, BET's magazine and local newspaper subsidiary.

MCMC said last night its offer that day to acquire Argus had lapsed. That followed a response from BET that other offers had been received in excess of the Maxwell offer.

This appears to leave two bidders for Argus as a single entity. One unnamed group is understood to have made an offer. There is also a bid from an attempted management buy-out.

Mr Maxwell is believed to have bid about £170 million for Argus. He had expected to sell off all or most of the newspaper interests to avoid monopoly complications.

Amersham golden share cancelled

By Carol Ferguson

The Government has cancelled its golden share in Amersham International, a move that was thought last night to leave the medical products group vulnerable to a takeover bid.

Shares in Amersham, the Government's first privatization six years ago, leapt 43p to 488p in late trading, valuing the business at £250 million. One analyst said: "It is not a question of if, it is a question of when it goes now."

The Special Rights Preference Share could have been redeemed last March, at the end of the six-year guarantee period, but speculation in the Amersham share price at that time caused the Government to ease its hand.

Mr Stuart Burgess, the group chief executive, said there was always the possibility that the golden share would be redeemed after March 31. "But what the Government has done does not alter the fundamental situation for a potential bidder who will still have to persuade 75 per cent of shareholders of the need for a bid," he said.

Amersham's articles of association prohibit any single shareholder from owning 15 per cent or more of the company's shares.

Commenting on the rise in the share price, Mr Burgess said: "I suspect that when they think about it, they will realise that this is not as great an event as they first thought."

He added: "It is possible for a bid to succeed against the wishes of the board, and carry 75 per cent of the votes, but it is a very difficult."

Market report, page 24

Edwardes to leave Chloride

By Martin Waller

Sir Michael Edwardes is standing down as chairman of Chloride Group, the company he nursed back to health earlier this decade.

The news, at yesterday's annual meeting, was accompanied by the appointment of Mr Ian Hay Davison, the former chief executive of Lloyd's, as a non-executive director. Mr Bill Foreman, the Vickers commercial director, was also appointed.

Sir Michael said he would be able to leave the company in the capable hands of people "who can bring fresh thinking to the group."

A decision on Sir Michael's successor will be made before the next annual meeting.

Mr Hay Davison recently went on to the board of Storehouse, the retail conglomerate.

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TEMPUS

Midland looking healthy at last

Occasionally, Midland Bank shareholders have something to celebrate. Yesterday the bank raised its dividend for only the second time since 1982 on profit results which show it to be doing quite nicely.

But celebrations were not in evidence. The bank's shares dropped 10p to 427p, reflecting the feeling that, as a recovery stock, Midland should be doing even better. This is a little harsh in the circumstances. Unlike National Westminster, Midland has at least managed to maintain its interest margins in the crucial but increasingly competitive domestic banking market.

The 21 per cent increase in British banking profits was a creditable performance, suggesting that Midland is finally getting its policies right. It seems to be holding its own against the building society onslaught on current accounts and is making inroads into the middle corporate market. Let's hope it does not sour its relationships with British corporates by repeating the RHM debacle too often.

Whether Midland is gaining any competitive edge by beating down its traditional high cost ratio is more questionable. Its cost cutting programme is proceeding slowly. An 11 per cent increase in costs is too high, although not as big as NatWest's, yet much

of this appears to have gone into computers and other technology so the benefits may show through in future years.

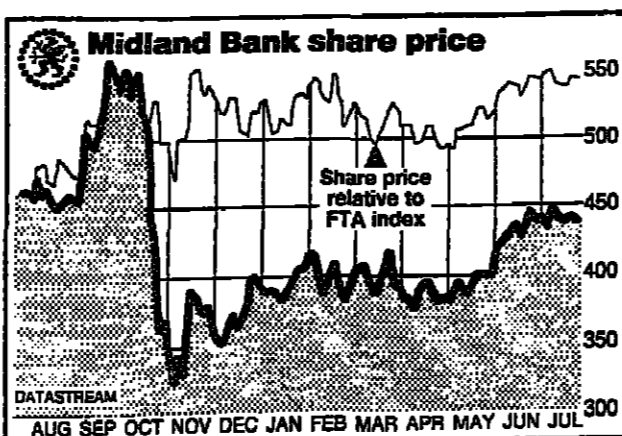
Which leaves Third World debt. Midland's marginal provision increase keeps it in line with the other banks and, paradoxically, it could benefit handsomely by the end of the year if Brazil and Argentina pay back interest still owing. On the other hand, it may not — hence some of the caution in the stock market.

So what comes next? More of the same. Midland has finally hammered out policies and a corporate structure that seem to work reasonably well. The task now is to fatten up the bank over the next two years to give it as strong a position as possible from which to negotiate a merger with Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. In the meantime, the Hong Kong connection will continue to support the share price, and on its present performance Midland's prospective p/e of 6.6 is justified.

Yesterday Mr Clegg lost his chance to make amends when he reported profits for last year well below City expectations. The market punished the shares by marking them down 16p to 156p.

For the 12 months to end-April, Mountleigh turned in pre-tax profits of £70.7 million, a good advance on the £33.5 million last time, but not the £75 million-plus the market had been seeking. Earnings per share showed a modest advance from 17.7p to 18.9p.

Smith achieved a like-for-like organic growth of 15 per cent when the markets it serves grew at between 6 and 8 per cent, which explains why the shares are the sort of in-



some friends. Mountleigh has been left nursing a £12.3 million loss on its shareholding in Storehouse while analysts are still puzzled at his motives for picking on a retailer with a not-particularly-attractive property portfolio.

At current levels, the shares are standing on a 27 per cent discount to the fully diluted net asset value of 215p. They could be out of favour for some time.

WCRS, an advertising and media services company, has put in a creditable performance. The 81 per cent jump

in pre-tax profits to £18.2 million was significantly helped by acquisitions, but the more reliable test of growth — earnings per share — still managed to rise by 33 per cent to 23.4p.

This year, the big change is that the group has had to gear up for its latest acquisition, the purchase of a 50 per cent stake in SGGMD, the French company which claims to be the second largest independent media buyer in Europe.

Rather than net cash, WCRS now has borrowings of £70 million. The interest cover of about 4.2 looks adequate, but analysts may be worried that the group is becoming too diverse.

The prospective multiple of just above 10 is at a 6 per cent or so discount to the market. WPP, on an 8 per cent discount, is both cheaper and a lower risk.

Last year's capital spend of just under £20 million on five acquisitions meant that net interest was payable, although at balance sheet date Smith was reasonably geared at 28 per cent, and therefore well able to fund further deals. It remains group policy, where possible, not to issue fresh shares to fund acquisitions and investment.

The overall level of Britain's manufacturing industry will ultimately determine the health of the packaging industry, but as long as Smith continues to beat its market, further respectable profit advances look assured, and £35 million pre-tax this year, before any further acquisitions, should be seen.

The rating at 10.6 barely reflects the positive outlook.

Cardboard boxes remain a profitable business for David S Smith, for the latest results show full-year pre-tax profits of £30.7 million against £24.2 million.

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WALL STREET

Dow edges forward in opening dealings

New York (Reuters) — Blue chips were slightly higher in early trading yesterday, although the general market was narrowly mixed. The Dow Jones industrial average was 3 points higher at 2,076.97. Mr Michael Metz, an analyst at Oppenheimer and Co. said: "The market looks like it's still worried about economic overheating."

The gross national product deflator — a measure of inflation for the whole economy — was higher than expected, although the GNP figures

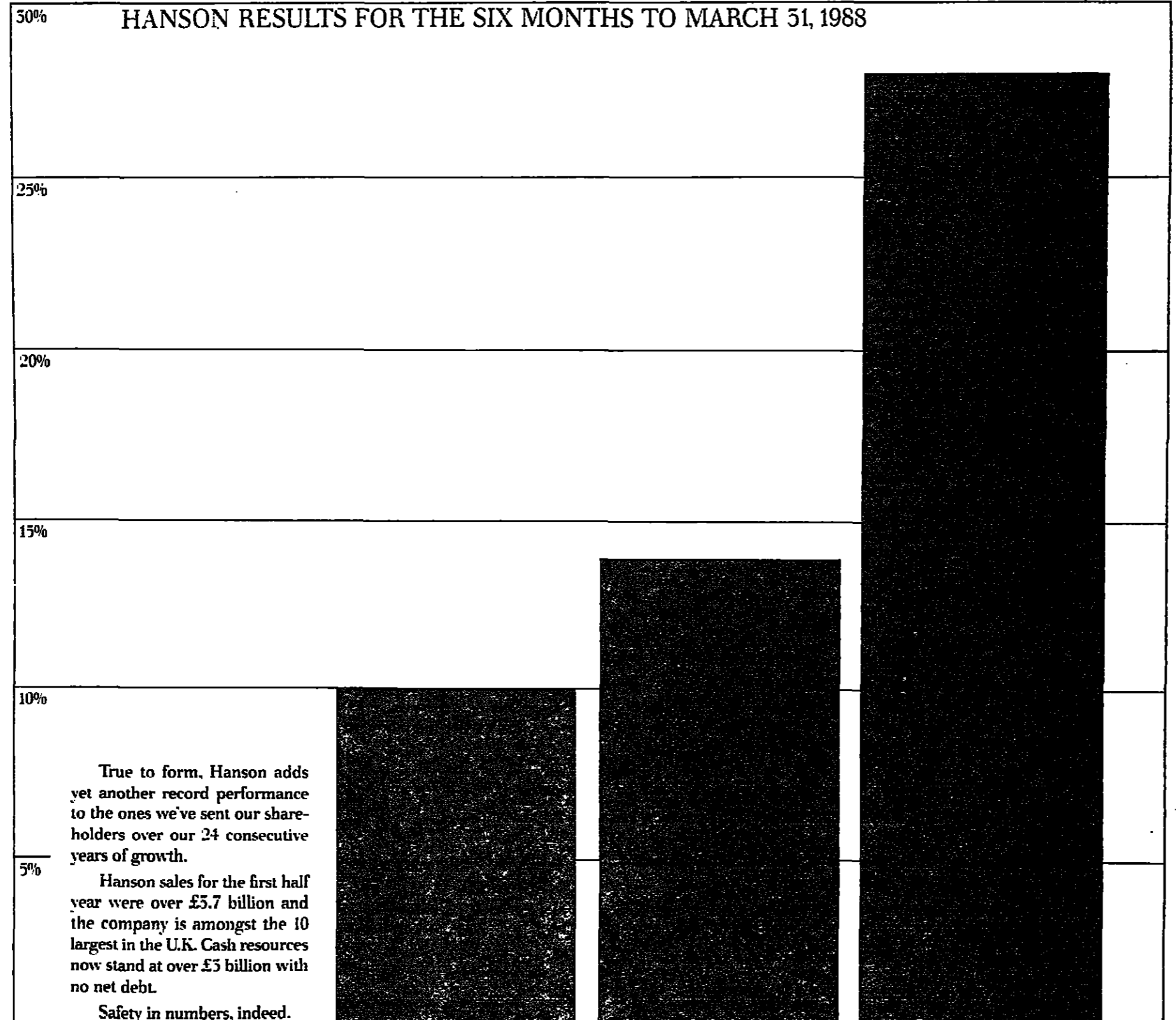
were close to target. Mr Metz added: "Those obsessed by inflation and interest rates seem to have done their selling. If the GNP report was bad news, it's out of the way. I think any surprise will be on the upside."

The Dow average closed 2.14 higher at 2,073.97 on Tuesday.

● Tokyo — The Nikkei index rose by 434.81 points, or 1.60 per cent, to 27,738.57. It had gained 120.23 points on Tuesday.

Table of stock market data including company names, share prices, and percentages. Includes sections for 'CANADIAN PRICES' and 'COMPANY BRIEFS'.

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Here today, here tomorrow.

COMPANY BRIEFS section containing short news items for companies like ARNCLIFFE, FLEMING FLEDGE, JURYS HOTEL, and ELECTRON HOUSE.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS section containing a detailed table of option contracts, including call and put options for various companies and their prices.

Mountleigh dampens bid talk as profits disappoint

By Cliff Feltham

Mountleigh Group, run by Mr Tony Clegg, yesterday dampened City speculation that it may consider launching a full-scale takeover bid for Sir Terence Conran's Storehouse chain.

Mr Clegg, who abandoned moves to bid shortly before the stock market crash, said he had no immediate plans to "do anything as far as Storehouse is concerned."

But he said he would hold on to the 3 per cent stake in Storehouse even though he has suffered a loss of £12.3 million on the shareholding. "We are happy to keep our holding in the belief that something will happen."

Mr Clegg disappointed the City with pre-tax profits for 1987-88 of £70.7 million. This compares with £33.5 million last year but is well adrift of expectations of at least £75 million. The loss on the Storehouse stake is treated as an extraordinary item. Shareholders collect a total dividend payout of 3.7p, a 25 per cent increase.

Mountleigh shares fell sharply to 156p, a drop of 16p on the day. Analysts began downgrading estimates for the present year to between £75 million to £80 million.

Mr Clegg, who had earlier announced the sale of the 350-acre Stockley Park business estate near Heathrow to a property consortium for £175 million, said the deal would give him a profit of "some millions, not tens of millions."

Observers said this implied a profit of close to £10 million against estimates of between £40 million and £50 million. He said Mountleigh was pressing ahead with its biggest-ever project — the £500 million redevelopment of the Paternoster Square complex north of St Paul's Cathedral. But in view of the size of the project, Mountleigh anticipated bringing in outside partners to carry out the development.

Mr Clegg said Mountleigh, well on its way to becoming one of Britain's largest owners of agricultural land, planned to increase its present holdings, worth about £40 million. The company was also intending to expand its development activities in the North of England, which include several inner city projects with Leeds City Development Company.

Schemes included a 500,000 sq ft city centre office development in Leeds, and a mixed urban regeneration project on a 130 acre site in the Kirkstall Valley. "As a company which has its roots in Leeds we are delighted to play our part in the economic revival of the North," he said.

Mr Clegg said: "A record year, strengthened management, a high quality portfolio and a flow of new and exciting opportunities enable me to look forward with confidence to a period of continued success and prosperity for the group." *Temps, page 22*



Holding on: Tony Clegg (Photograph: James Morgan)

SE may revive its compensation plan

By Vivien Goldsmith, Family Money Editor

The Stock Exchange is to consider reviving its compensation scheme, due to be replaced by an industry-wide scheme on August 27, to protect investors doing business with firms that have only interim authorization.

Investors who do business with interim authorized brokers after August 27 will not be protected by the new industry-wide compensation scheme being brought in as part of the Financial Services Act.

The Exchange is to consider extending its own scheme to bridge the gap.

The issue will be discussed at the Exchange's board meeting at the beginning of next month.

The Exchange scheme protects investors against losses of up to £250,000, or £500,000

in cases of fraud, and pays out claims in full.

Mr David Walker, the chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, has admitted that the demise of the Exchange's scheme leaves "an awkward lacuna", with a body of investors unprotected.

Interim authorization is not intended to carry any stigma. The self-regulating organizations such as The Securities Association received such a flood of applications as the April 29 deadline approached that they were not able to process them all.

However, interim authorization has also been given to companies needing further investigation. Investors have no way of knowing why any interim-authorized firm has not proceeded to fully authorized status.

Nimex unveils bid for Monument

By Carol Ferguson

Nimex, the oil group, has taken a 40.24 per cent stake in Monument Oil and Gas, the USM-quoted independent oil company, and is launching a formal 12p a share offer for the rest of the shares.

Nimex, the unquoted group headed by Mr Antony Craven Walker, acquired the stake in Monument through the private Swiss bank Lombard Odier & Cie. These had been disaffiliated under a High Court order, because Lombard Odier refused to disclose the identity of the beneficial owners. The shares have now been released by the court.

Nimex then sold its British oil and gas interests to Monument for another 8 million shares, taking it up to 40.24 per cent.

Mr Craven Walker said that the company could not do

much during the 21-day offer period — the formal offer document will be posted to shareholders tomorrow — but he is evaluating possible acquisitions.

He added that, through Nimex's major shareholders — Groupe Bruxelles Lambert, Banque Paribas and Electra Investment Trust — Monument would have access to very significant funds for acquisitions.

Monument is currently drilling a well in the central North Sea. The target is a deep gas prospect. Drilling results are not expected for some time. The company also hopes to drill a well on its East Midlands licence, in the Nottingham area, in September if planning permission is granted in time.

Monument shares yesterday were 164p, down 3p.

TSB leads with new bond

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

The TSB Group yesterday became the first bank regulated by the Bank of England to issue mortgage-backed bonds.

The TSB said that it had found a method of securitizing mortgages which appeared to satisfy the Bank of England, although the Bank had not published final guidelines on the securitization of home loans.

The £135 million issue is being launched by a specially created subsidiary of Mortgage Express, the TSB's mortgage lending arm.

The TSB is not providing guarantees, as other institutions which have securitized mortgages have often done. The bonds are expected, however, to be given a triple A rating by Standard & Poors, the US rating agency.

Mortgage Express will retain control of the interest rate charged on the mortgages contained in the bonds, and continue to service borrowers. The issue represents about 10 per cent of Mortgage Express's £1.5 billion loan book.

The bonds were priced yesterday at 30 basis points above the Libor.

BLP reveals issue details

Bonded Laminates Profiles, the USM-quoted maker of veneers and wood laminates, has announced details of its £3.5 million convertible preference shares issue, being offered back to shareholders.

They can accept two new convertibles at 100p each for every five ordinary held. Of the 3.53 million new shares being issued, directors entitled to 2.41 million will not take up their rights. These will be placed with institutions.

Praise for BSC in report

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission's report on British Steel Corporation, published yesterday, has commended BSC's return to profits, but identifies areas where there is still scope for improved efficiency.

It was delivered to the DTI in 1986, but publication was held up, at BSC's request, for parts to be removed which might have damaged BSC's commercial interests, if made public.

Gandalf's £4m

Gandalf Technologies, the Canadian group, has reaped an estimated £4 million profit following the sale at 123p a share of its 6.09 million CASE shares. Gandalf says its offer for CASE, the information network group, will lapse at the next closing date on August 6. Dowry beat Gandalf with an agreed £82.5 million offer, compared with Gandalf's £70 million.

Profits boost

Trencherwood, the Berkshire housebuilder, boosted pre-tax profits 65 per cent to £6.04 million in the six months to end-April, on turnover up 76 per cent at £22.7 million. The interim dividend has been raised a quarter to 1.31p net per share.

BAJ contract

BAJ, an offshoot of Meggitt Holdings, has won a £6 million contract to supply rocket motor hardware for the Alarm missile system being manufactured by the German group Bayern-Chemie.

COMMENT David Brewerton

A little less cheese, please, Sir Ralph

Any Burton Group shareholder wondering why, in the middle of a spending boom which is running the balance of payments into billion-pound monthly deficits, his shares are bumping around their lowest levels for years need only to turn to the tabloid press.

They can take their choice. *The Sun*, *Daily Mirror*, *News of the World*. Each of them is once again carrying stories relating to the private life of Sir Ralph Halpern, chairman of the group. For the tabloid press, the stories make good copy. But for Burton Group and the shareholders who have backed Sir Ralph they are disastrous. They have a direct and almost measurable impact on the Burton share price, and cannot help but distract the board from the proper running of the business.

How else can be explained the dreadful performance of Burton shares? In relative terms, the shares have underperformed the market by about 50 per cent since the successful takeover of Debenhams. Compare the performance with that of Woolworth, for instance, and the lowly status of Burton stock is impossible to ignore. Burton shares hit a peak of 352p in

April 1986, and at one point yesterday slumped to 215p, before ending the day 1p harder at 222p.

Such a situation cannot be explained by Burton's trading performance, which, while maybe not brilliant, is reassuringly solid. New forecasts due soon from SBCI Savory Millin will show pre-tax profits of £212 million for the year ending on August 31, followed by £240 million in 1988-89. That puts the shares on a current year multiple of 9.5 times earnings, falling to 8.4 times for the coming year. Cheap, both compared with the market, as a whole and with the retailing sector.

It has to be said that Sir Ralph's alleged, and not denied, nocturnal activities are not the only adverse influence on Burton's price: the unresolved DTI investigation also hangs like a crow above the Burton wheatfield.

But institutional investors if not Sir Ralph's fellow directors should be asking themselves whether Sir Ralph, if he cannot remain silent, is becoming a liability where once he was Burton's greatest asset.

At the very least, they could ask him not to smile when posing for the centre spread of the *Daily Mirror*.

An appalling state of affairs

The Chancellor may have his disagreements with the financial markets but one thing he could not accuse them of yesterday was over-reacting to the bad news. The gilt market hardly blinked on the announcement of a second successive £1 billion-plus current account deficit, equities were marked down — but only in a half-hearted way — and the pound, while initially down against the dollar, held up well against the mark.

As it turned out, the markets were wise to have limited their reaction to the trade figures. Hardly had the news sunk in before the second-quarter US Gross National Product figures were flashing up on the wires from Washington. The figures showed annualized growth of 3.1 per cent, below market expectations, so the dollar was marked down, a rather curious reaction in view of the fact that the data included a substantially higher estimate of US inflation during the second quarter.

Britain's high interest rates ensured that the pound was the main beneficiary of the dollar's fall and everything was all right again. Or was it?

The muted reaction to the trade figures was partly because bad news had been expected — although the outturn was worse than forecast — and partly because, following his Institute of Economic Affairs speech last week, dealers did not expect the Chancellor to be panicked into

emergency action as a result of another bad set of data.

But a £5.7 billion current account deficit in the first half, with even the Treasury far from confident that the second half will bring an improvement, is an appalling state of affairs.

For the moment, sterling is reacting in a perverse way to an undoubted deterioration in the economic fundamentals that will, eventually, bring the pound tumbling down. And when this occurs, the Chancellor may not have the luxury of deciding whether or not he wants to respond, through further action to rein back demand, to the widening deficit. On past form, such action will sooner or later be forced upon him by the markets.

Gift rapped dilemma

Sir Robert Crichton-Brown has the choice tomorrow of retiring as chairman of Rothmans International with a vote of heartfelt thanks ringing in his ears, or a cheque for £750,000 in his pocket. The *ex-gratia* payment is proposed by his fellow directors to round off a lucrative and highly successful period at the helm of the group. While the outcome of the shareholder vote is not in doubt, there will be a display of institutional disapproval of this over-generous act. The right thing for Sir Robert to do would be to politely reject the offer.

SE to review jump in Trent share price before bid news

By Martin Waller

The Stock Exchange is investigating dealings in the shares of Trent Holdings, the door maker.

The shares jumped 13p to 182p on Tuesday, the day before the company announced an agreed £12.78 million takeover by Whitecroft, the textiles to building products group.

The chairman of both companies believe the abrupt movement in Trent's price can be explained by the narrow market in the shares.

Mr Tom Weatherly, the Whitecroft chairman, said Trent shares had been extremely volatile as the market viewed them as a possible bid target.

"We're taking the view that this has been a narrow market, and they have been talking

about discussions for a very long time," he said.

But on the advice of Schroders, its financial adviser, Whitecroft is recommending Trent shareholders to concentrate on the price of 142p on May 24, the day before there was a "substantial increase" in the Trent share price.

Mr Geoffrey Simon, chairman of Trent, said he was told on Tuesday, as negotiations drew to a close, that the price was rising. Inquiries at Kleinwort Greaveson, its broker, suggested only 10,000 shares had changed hands.

There are 6.88 million Trent shares in issue, and Whitecroft has the approval of shareholders owning 39 per cent of the company. A further

14.5 per cent was acquired in the market yesterday.

An Exchange spokeswoman said: "We automatically investigate any unusual price movements, particularly if followed by an announcement."

The Exchange's Insider Dealing Group is understood to have been alerted.

Whitecroft is offering five new shares and £16.15 cash for every 17 in Trent, valuing each share at almost 188p. The Trent price edged back 1p to 181p on the news.

Trent has also revealed pre-tax profits for the year to end-March slightly lower at £715,000, against £752,000 last time. The results were hit by exceptional provisions which led to a £253,000 loss from its contracting division.

Waste disposal firm to bid for NESL

By Colin Narborough

North Venture, a London waste technology company, yesterday unveiled plans to take over the state-owned North East Shipbuilders (NESL), and build an initial £400 million (£233 million) worth of special vessels to dump waste on the sea-bed at depths greater than 13,000 feet.

Once the pilot scheme has proved itself, the company intends to sell its "bucket ships" worldwide.

Mr Alex Copson, a North

venture consultant and inventor of the deep-sea depositing process, said that the first \$100 million, 40,000-tonne ship could be built as early as next April to June, with a further three ships being built over the following three years.

Licences for depositing low-toxicity waste were currently being sought from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, he said. The licences are for dumping sewage, dredge spoil, gypsum waste from power stations, and contaminated soil.

The bucket boat system

lowers the waste, in containers, to the sea-bed, and deposits it in places where there is little marine life.

North Venture expects to submit a bid proposal to the Department of Trade and Industry by the end of August.

Mr Copson said his company had originally been interested in having the ships built at NESL. But, he added, because of the Government's policy of selling off British Shipbuilders' yards, "suddenly we have to become owners".

He put no figure on what

North Venture was prepared to pay for NESL, merely saying it would be no more than the £6 million Kvaerner, the Norwegian company, paid for BS's Govan yard on Clydeside.

As to the possible threat to the environment caused by dumping the waste on the seabed, Mr Copson said the system was better than the present method of dumping it on land, in rivers or in shallow seas. He said North Venture planned to monitor the environmental impact for 15 years.

Cheal out to cut a record

Traded options dealers at Phillips & Drew are offering odds of no better than even money on their colleague Nigel Cheal continuing to stay hale and hearty for another 12 months. For Cheal, aged 26, is planning to set a land speed record on a motorbike within the next year, racing a specially built bike in Ohio at speeds in excess of 350 mph. "I've had a passion for motorcycles ever since I was 13 or 14," Cheal says, "and I've been racing dragsters for a number of years at speeds of up to 160 mph." From a standing start, he can complete the 440 yards of a dragster course in just over nine seconds — and needs to reduce that to less than eight seconds to break the dragster record. Then he will be off to smash the world motorbike speed record of 318.58 mph. "The bike is being built up in Manchester and we're just starting to do our castings and a brochure so that we can market ourselves and look for sponsors," Cheal tells me. "The whole attempt is likely to cost between £80,000 and £100,000 — all my colleagues here think I'm mad."

Buyouts in

The age of the demerger could be well and truly upon us. So thinks Ian Hawkins, one of the six executive partners who, in a joint venture with Phillips & Drew Fund Management, created Philkrew Ventures, a venture capital specialist, two years ago. For Philkrew has

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Cloves in DTI clover

With the furore continuing over whether the Department of Trade should compensate investors in Barlow Cloves, I can reveal that the DTI has in fact paid more than £1,000 to Barlow Cloves itself. The money apparently arrived out of the blue at Barlow Cloves' offices shortly after April 29, a month before the whole affair erupted. At the time, puzzled Barlow Cloves staff wondered

what it was for. It turned out to be two £500 bonds which Barlow Cloves had put up when it was granted two licences to deal with the public in 1985. On April 29 the Financial Services Act came into force, replacing the old and much-discredited system of licensed dealers, and the money was returned. The DTI even paid Barlow Cloves interest on the £1,000.

Well-suited

The new Broadgate Development already has the highest "pin-stripe count" in the City — or so says Chris Brown, managing director of Corney & Barrow, the wine merchant and restaurateur which has just opened a champagne bar there. "Before we open new premises we always do a pin-stripe count to see if it's viable," he tells me, adding that in Broadgate the count is a record 1,000 an hour. This compares with a measly 150 or so in the St Paul's area.

A man in 3 million

The legendary salary of Christopher Heath, Baring's investment banker, rose from £2.5 million to around £3 million during 1987. The exact amount will be revealed in the merchant bank's annual report, due out any day. But in an interview with the *International Herald Tribune*, Heath, aged 42, and a specialist in Japanese equities, gave a clue to his new package by revealing that he is about £500,000 better off after the tax cuts announced by the Chancellor in his Budget tax cuts. He claims that the tax cuts will have a "positive effect" on Britain. "It gives me plenty of incentive," he says. In terms of actually acquiring material things it's not going to make a difference in the way I lead my life, but it provides an opportunity to look around for other things to invest in." He already has interests in wineries, racehorses and property. And also makes large donations to a private children's charity he established several years ago.

Carol Leonard

London Shop plc

"The year to 30 April 1988 showed further substantial growth in capital values and income."

— John H. Bushell, Chairman.

| | Years to 30 April | | |
|--|-------------------|--------|--------|
| | 1988 | 1987 | |
| Pretax profits | £10.89m | £8.43m | +29.2% |
| Earnings per ordinary share | 11.8p | 10.5p | +12.4% |
| — excluding prior year tax adjustments | 11.8p | 9.9p | +19.2% |
| Ordinary dividends | 7.1p | 6.2p | +14.5% |
| Net assets per ordinary share | 267.7p | 214.2p | +25.0% |

The Annual Report will be despatched to Shareholders on 19 August 1988. Copies will be available from the Company Secretary, London Shop plc, Beaufort House, 179/187 Arthur Road, London SW19 8AF.

The contents of this statement, for which the Directors of London Shop plc are solely responsible, have been approved by a person authorised under the Financial Services Act 1986.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Confident Saga lifts half-time payout

Saga Holidays, which concentrates on holidays for older clients, is raising its interim dividend from 1.6p to 2p a share, reflecting boardroom confidence in a strong finish to the year. The seasonality of the business traditionally means losses in the first half, and Saga is changing its year-end from October 31 to January 31 to provide a better balance between halves.

The group showed a reduced pretax loss for the six months to end-April of £1.29 million (£1.49 million) on a turnover that rose from £26.1 million to £27.4 million. The shares rose 5p to 215p in early dealings.

£4m profit at Havelock London Shop ahead 29%

A buoyant market for shop-fitting boosted pre-tax profits at Havelock Europa to £4.0 million (£3.16 million) in the year to April 22. Since the year-end, it has paid £9.5 million for the shopfitting activities of Boots, the chemist. The final dividend rises by 1.5p to 6p, making a total of 8.6p (6.5p).

London Shop, the property company, lifted pre-tax profits by 29 per cent last year, to £10.89 million. A total dividend of 7.1p, up 14.5 per cent, was declared. During the year London Shop bought 25 properties for £22 million, and its house-building side earned record profits of nearly £3 million.

Kenyon profits soar

Kenyon Securities, one of three undertakers buying up the British funerals industry, has reported pre-tax profits almost doubled from £854,000 to £1.63 million for the year to end-March. It bought four large and five smaller businesses during the year, boosting the number of branches from 40 to 108 and the number of funerals from 8,900 to 21,000 a year.

The higher profits had come from this growth and from rationalization of last year's acquisitions, said Mr Michael Kenyon, the chairman. The group's emergency services subsidiary, which assisted at the Zeebrugge and King's Cross station disasters, is now involved in the Piper Alpha tragedy. A final dividend of 4.75p makes a 6.75p (6p) total.

Astra adds to US orders Ash up 23% at half way

Astra Holdings, the Kent maker of military pyrotechnics, has won orders worth \$11.58 million (£6.64 million) from the US Department of Defence for ammunition and flares, bringing the value of US contracts won by Astra since the recent British Army Equipment Exhibition to \$29.41 million.

Automated Security (Holdings), the country's biggest supplier of burglar alarms, continued to benefit from the rising crime figures, with pre-tax profits for the six months to end-May up 23 per cent to £7.12 million. Ash continues to seek acquisitions. The half-way dividend is 0.96p (0.8p).

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

| First Dealings | Last Dealings | Last Declaration | For Settlement |
|----------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| July 25 | August 5 | October 27 | November 7 |

Call options were taken out on: 27/7/88 Blacks Leisure, Tyndal, Explaura, Istock, Asda, Colclough, Rudan Property, Horsons, SSR, Eastie Holdings, BOM 3hp, Tesco, Dee Corp, Cambium Venture, Put Chairman, Put & Cell, Chronicle.

Amersham climbs on hopes of bid

A "for sale" sign went up yesterday at Amersham International, the special diagnostics group, after the Government told the company to buy back its golden share. At least, that was the story in the market-place as the Amersham share price soared by 43p to 488p in after-hours trading, adding almost £22 million to the group's £223 million stock market value. At one stage, market-makers were refusing to make a price as they became swamped by a deluge of inquiries from eager investors.

Amersham was granted the golden share option when it was privatized in 1982 after being offered to the public at 142p a share. The golden share protected Amersham from unwanted bids and also prevented anyone from building a stake in the company of more than 15 per cent. The Government gave guarantees that it would not redeem it until March 31 this year. But now it has decided that Amersham must stand on its own feet and will now seek Parliamentary approval for its move.

Amersham has been the subject of intense bid speculation since the spring with companies such as Fisons, ICI and Dupont all mentioned as possible suitors. Last month, the group reported a rise in pre-tax profits of 14 per cent to £25 million and might have done even better had it not been for currency fluctuations.

But the Amersham share price has badly underperformed the rest of the market since it was first floated. Dr Stuart Burgess, Amersham's chief executive, said that he was pleased that uncertainty about the future of the special rights preference share had ended. But analysts in the market are convinced that the group's problems have only just started.

The articles of association still prevent anyone from holding more than 15 per cent of the shares but brokers say that this will be no defence against an aggressive bidder. Mr Ian Moore, an analyst at Morgan Grenfell, claims that predators could build up a 14.9 per cent stake and then make an offer to other shareholders before calling for an extraordinary meeting to



alter the articles of association. Mr Jonathan de Pass, a pharmaceutical analyst at Robert Fleming Securities, said: "The renewed bid speculation will drive the share price significantly higher within the next few days."

Mr Moore at Morgan Grenfell added: "If Amersham does go, it will be purely a matter of price. The right price could attract plenty of support from other shareholders."

Meanwhile, the rest of the equity market shrugged off another abysmal set of British trade figures and evidence of a further slowdown in the US economy to close with modest gains.

Once again, activity centred on the few bid situations and trading news. Dealers said that turnover had been affected by the peak holiday period with many fund managers now missing from their desks.

The FT-SE 100 share index, which stood more than 9 points down ahead of the trade figures, recovered to finish 3.1 points up at 1,840.8. The narrower FT 30 share index closed 5.8 points higher at 1,478.8.

The strength of sterling bolstered gilt-edged stocks which closed with improvements ranging to 5 1/2p.

Taylor Woodrow, the construction group, closed 2p better at 548p on the news that P&O had increased its holding in the company from 6 to 8.5 per cent by acquiring a further 3.4 million shares.

Reed International was again supported by a variety of stories and closed 14p higher at 443p, after 448p. Almost 5 million shares were traded.

One large buyer paid 450p for a large line of shares, starting a renewed flurry of speculative activity with market-makers attempting to cover their positions.

Reed was the subject of intense takeover talk last year and reached a pre-crash peak of 620p. Bid stories have again started to circulate about the company which has disposed of a number of fringe activities and is now purely a publisher.

There were claims that Lord Hanson had built up a near 5 per cent stake and that Torres Hoffenich, the Spanish paper group, had also picked up a 3.4 per cent holding.

The News Corporation, Mr

Rupert Murdoch's international publishing and television group already holds a 2.5 per cent stake and is always believed to be responsible for any sudden movement in the Reed share price.

Another view was that Reed, flush with cash, might join the bid battle for Macmillan Inc of the US which is currently in receipt of takeover bids.

Mr Tony Pennie, an analyst at James Capel, the broker, thinks that Reed is fundamentally undervalued.

After disappointing profit performances from NatWest and Midland, Barclays is expected to appease followers of the clearing banks today.

Analysts' forecasts range between £575 million and £600 million, but the bank is expected to reveal pre-tax profits in excess of £600 million, against last year's loss of £40 million following provisions of £570 million.

Barclays shares reflected the dull trend of the clearers and closed 5p off at 410p, after 406p.

Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

ALPHA STOCKS

| Vol '000 | Vol '000 | Vol '000 | Vol '000 |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| ADT 664 | Coats 2,634 | Land Sec 618 | Royal Ins 1,038 |
| Abbey 141 | CU 749 | Lag 1 | Sasachi 481 |
| Aid-Lyons 1,018 | Cons Gold 871 | LAG 413 | Selsbury 1,348 |
| Amrad 1,039 | Cookson 671 | Lloyds 1,083 | Scott & N 1,206 |
| ASDA 2,535 | Courtauld 1,083 | Lofnro 1,406 | Sears 2,351 |
| AB Foods 119 | Dalrymple 295 | Lucas 317 | Seitwick 743 |
| Argyll 1,273 | Dee 1,510 | Magnet 493 | Shell 610 |
| BAA 2,147 | Dooms 1,306 | M&S 3,982 | Smith & N 1,543 |
| BET 538 | EOC 675 | Marshall Cm 538 | Smith Wh 9 |
| BTR 740 | Enterprise 1,182 | MEPC 406 | Smiths Ind 1,309 |
| BAT 1,855 | Ferranti 3,172 | Metal Box 176 | STC 1,838 |
| Barclays 1,554 | Fisons 2,718 | Midland 2,222 | Stan Chart 314 |
| Beas 424 | Gen Acc 176 | NatWest 3,502 | Storehouse 84 |
| Beecham 1,893 | Gen Acc 280 | Next 533 | Sun Alliance 81 |
| Beazer 397 | GEN 2,557 | Nip Food 753 | T & N 1,829 |
| Benliff SW 185 | Globe 1,277 | P&O 637 | Tarmac 1,778 |
| BICC 302 | Globe Inv 63 | Pearl 133 | Tate & Lyle 780 |
| Blue Arrow 2,827 | Glynwed 957 | Pearson 80 | TSS 458 |
| Blue Circle 283 | Granada 755 | Peterson 505 | Yesco 8,237 |
| BOC 1,851 | Grand Met 1,091 | Plessey 1,335 | Thorn EM 669 |
| Boots 2,354 | GUUS 'A' 112 | Prudential 545 | Trafalgar 308 |
| BPB 1,745 | GRE 655 | Racal 2,783 | THP 478 |
| Br Aero 1,087 | GKN 777 | RK Hovis 376 | Ultramar 582 |
| Br Airways 1,170 | Guinness 1,564 | Rank 111 | Unigate 299 |
| Br Com 1,095 | Hamm 'A' 35 | RBC 132 | Unilever 401 |
| Br Gas 3,838 | Hanson 3,724 | Readlink 1,041 | United Sta 1,650 |
| Br Petrol 2,411 | Hid-down 3,880 | Reed 4,997 | Wellcome 555 |
| BT Telecom 875 | ICI 490 | Reid 269 | Williams 435 |
| Bunzl 1,050 | ICI 490 | Reid 269 | Whitard 1,168 |
| Burnham 99 | Inchcape 165 | Royale 1,683 | Williams 435 |
| Burton 3,218 | Jaguar 669 | Rothm 'B' 637 | Wemyss G 1,498 |
| C&W 710 | Lasmo 691 | Rover 816 | Woodworth 308 |
| Cacbury 1,197 | Leadbroke 1,155 | Royal Bank 912 | Equities page 25 |

Photocopier group buys distributor

Southern Business Group, the USM-quoted supplier of photocopiers and vending machines, has bought out the remaining 50 per cent interest in Benworth Copying Machines, a distributor of Canon and Sharp equipment, held by Mr John Murray, a Southern director.

The consideration is £3.58 million in new Southern shares, which Mr Murray is retaining.

Southern is also issuing 300,000 new shares to institutions at 35p to raise about £1 million, which will fund the £670,000 purchase and refurbishment of a property in Crawley, Sussex, to serve as headquarters for its Business Machines subsidiary.

Protectionist pressure grows in US

How tough Democrat stance highlights trade as election issue

Senator Lloyd Bentsen, the Democratic candidate for vice-president, returned to Washington this week to manage a final Senate vote on a trade bill which is becoming an important issue in the presidential election.

At the Democratic Convention in Atlanta last week, Mr Bentsen, who chairs the influential Senate Finance Committee, was commended repeatedly for his role in crafting a tough trade bill. Its message to America's allies was that the US would exact retribution from countries which either closed their markets to American goods or unfairly subsidized their own domestic products.

The key words of the bill were "fair trade" and "market-opening measures" as opposed to the big stick approach to trade issues. Mr Bentsen was praised for his role in defeating the headline protectionist measures which were seen as forerunners to a 1930s-style trade war. His place on the Democratic ticket was therefore a relief to America's allies.

But the real significance of the legislation will not be gauged until after both the Democratic and Republican presidential candidates test the waters on trade issues and determine whether the US electorate is demanding a form of nouvelle protectionism on the political menu.

Will the next president be forced to place restrictions on foreign takeovers in important US industries, tougher anti-trust laws and retaliate broadly against countries which restrict US access to their markets? Will he also be pressed by Congress to protect US industries deemed to be losing vital market share to foreign competitors?

All the polling evidence suggests this is the case. Indeed, Mr Andrew Kahut, president of the Gallup Organization, said in Atlanta that the depth of public emotion on trade issues had been greatly understated. Based on his polling data, he predicted that trade would be a dominant issue in the next Congress no matter who is elected president in November. This will lead to adoption of more restrictive trade measures.

Officials noted that although Mr Richard Gephardt, the Missouri congressman, failed in his bid for the Democratic nomination, he forced the other candidates, from both parties, to take a



Thumbs up: Michael Dukakis (left) with Lloyd Bentsen.

much tougher line on trade issues.

This message has not gone unnoticed on Wall Street. Officials predicted that foreign takeovers of US companies and leveraged buyouts, running at a near-record pace, would surge dramatically in the autumn as investors rush to complete transactions in the waning days of the Reagan Administration.

Wall Street officials expect a less favourable investment climate in which there will be some restrictions on foreign takeovers and stricter enforcement of US anti-trust laws.

Fuelling the Wall Street uncertainty is a lack of under-

Dukakis cannot be classified as a traditional, new deal Democrat

"new deal" Democrat. A firm believer in deficit reduction, he is not likely to throw money at programmes.

As a first step, according to his advisers, he would negotiate with Congress a credible deficit-reduction plan to soothe the inflationary fears of financial markets.

Next on the agenda would be a plan to boost US productivity by aiding specific industries or regions of the country which are in decline. His development plans envisage business, not as an adversary, but as a willing partner.

"We want to boost regional development through business-labour-government partnerships," said one adviser. Mr Dukakis is prepared to spend only \$500 million (£292 million) in Federal seed money - the rest would come from private sources.

And finally, on the crucial issue of trade, Mr Dukakis advocates a position which is not purely free trade but not as heavily protectionist as many in Congress would like.

He opposes strongly the use of restrictive tariffs and favours instead a "bubble approach" to hard-hit US industries which are suffering from foreign imports. Selected industries would apply for short-term Federal help but only if they can prove damage from foreign imports and agree to a specific modernization programme to increase productivity.

This is far short of the comprehensive industrial policy advocated by some of his closest advisers and by key leaders in Congress.

Bailey Morris

MIDLAND GROUP

| GROUP RESULTS (UNAUDITED) | 6 MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 1988 | 6 MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 1987 | YEARS ENDED 31 DEC 1987 |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| EM | EM | EM | EM |
| PROFIT BEFORE EXCEPTIONAL ITEM | 313 | 251 | 511 |
| EXCEPTIONAL ITEM | | (916) | (1,016) |
| PROFIT/(LOSS) BEFORE TAXATION | 313 | (665) | (505) |
| PROFIT/(LOSS) AFTER TAXATION | 282 | (517) | (447) |
| PROFIT/(LOSS) ATTRIBUTABLE TO MEMBERS OF MIDLAND BANK PLC | 179 | (521) | (393) |
| EARNINGS/(LOSS) PER SHARE | | (166.8p) | (125.3p) |

*ADJUSTED FOR 1987 RIGHTS ISSUE

Our interim statement shows we're on course for a better year.

"I regard as very satisfactory the strong improvement in the underlying profit trend which has been achieved right across the group, but particularly in our home markets, in highly competitive and volatile conditions. The group's capital position remains strong."

Kit McMahon
 Sir Kit McMahon, Chairman



MIDLAND GROUP

A full copy of the press release is available from the Secretary, Midland Bank plc, Head Office, Poultry, London EC2P 2BX. Telephone: 01-260 8184

RECENT ISSUES

| EQUITIES | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Acel (130p) | 148 +2 |
| BMS (115p) | 123 |
| Broadwell Land (150p) | 178 |
| Bucknall Aust (110p) | 125 |
| Builder Gp (125p) | 157 |
| Chiswell Int | 50 |
| Christie Gp (145p) | 186 +1 |
| Colfax Power (125p) | 144 -1 |
| Conroy (150p) | 189 |
| Conroy Int | 57 |
| Cory (Horace) | 30 1/2 -1/2 |
| Eng O'Leary Prop (155p) | 138 |
| Eragon Group (160p) | 188 |
| Heritage (55p) | 165 |
| Herring Son (150p) | 152 +1 |
| Hillcare (80p) | 83 -2 |
| Jackson Group | 112 |
| Lineat Group (115p) | 165 +10 |
| Net Telecom | 139 +2 |
| Optim Gp (60p) | 60 -1 |
| Palmerston Hogs | 242 +2 |
| Saunderson Elec (130p) | 140 |
| Seville (125p) | 131 -1 |
| SCReop | 218 1/2 |
| Sovereign-R (80p) | 95 |
| Sonic Tele (15p) | 15 -37 |
| Reject Shop (140p) | 153 +2 |
| TGI (130p) | 145 |
| Tama (John) (80p) | 91 |
| Thornley (125p) | 131 -1 |
| RIGHTS ISSUES | |
| Booker N/P | 62 -1 |
| Campbell Arm N/P | 10 |
| City Gate N/P | 310 -1 |
| Evans Heston N/P | 35 |
| Foster (John) N/P | 21 +1 |
| Macalain Glenh N/P | 145 |
| Nat Aust Bk N/P | 72 |
| Northgate N/P | 45 +4 |
| Reliant Motor N/P | 9 |

The next best thing to tomorrow's share price page.

0898 12 12 40/41
 Leading shares A-K/L-Z respectively.

CITYCALL
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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES Equities resilient

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began July 18. Dealings end tomorrow. Contango day August 1. Settlement day August 8.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (a) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 24).

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator From your Portfolio gold and silver...

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000 CLAIMS required for 38 points ACCUMULATOR £130,000 CLAIMS better than 38 points CLAIMANTS should ring 0254-53272

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Lists various stocks like Boots, Amalgamated, Heywood Williams, etc.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for BREWERIES.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for BUILDING, ROADS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for FINANCE, LAND.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for FINANCIAL TRUSTS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for FOODS.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for CHEMICALS, PLASTICS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for DRAPERY, STORES.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for HOTELS, CATERERS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for INDUSTRIALS A-D.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for L-R.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for S-Z.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for CINEMAS, TV STOCKS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for MOTOR, AIRCRAFT.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for OILS, GAS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for SHIPING.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for SHOES, LEATHER.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for OVER FIFTEEN YEARS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for TEXTILES.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for TOBACCOS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for BANKS, DISCOUNT HP.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for ELECTRICALS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for INDEX-LINKED.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for UNDATED.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for OILS, GAS.

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Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for OILS, GAS.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for OVER FIFTEEN YEARS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for TEXTILES.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Section for TOBACCOS.

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READING

FOCUS

Boom of a sunrise town

DAVID HARTLEY

Rail, road and air links have put Reading on the map for the new high-tech industries, so much so that the town is now trying to slow the pace of growth

Reading, which changed from being a Victorian manufacturing town to become a leading centre for Britain's "sunrise" industries, is a successful town which is pausing to take stock of its success.

"We are now," says Stuart Hyton, Reading's assistant borough planning officer, "in a situation where we are trying to slow the growth a bit to allow the highway development and the supply of skilled labour to catch up."

There are, however, still a few big schemes coming through — the Apex Plaza office development and the new rail station schemes are the largest. The station, with its associated multi-storey car park, is going to be just about the plushiest on the Western Region.

The town has been a runaway success in attracting the administrative headquarters of big companies. Mr Hyton describes Reading as "the high-tech town of the South-East."

For Mr Hyton the reasons are obvious. "Location," he says, "We have the most important Western Region rail station outside Paddington. Rail-air links to Heathrow and

Gatwick are good, and we have easy access to the M4. There's a pleasant living environment and a wide range of support services for business.

"Balance these advantages with the town's commercial-rent levels — markedly lower than London — and that's the equation that makes us attractive."

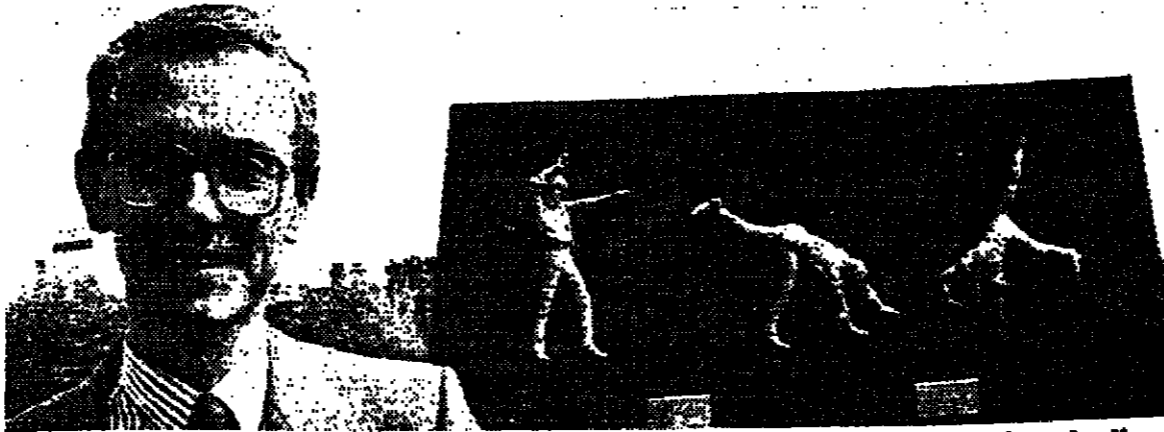
Though Reading's success is because of new technology, the council does not want to become too dependent on a single industry or type of work.

"We are trying to maintain the diversity of the local economy," says Mr Hyton. "One of the problems we had with the spate of high-tech growth in recent years was that it had the effect of pricing out conventional industries. That trend seems to have righted itself."

"We've a pretty big supply of high-tech buildings and conventional industrial sheds now seem to be able to compete for the land that's becoming available. We've been in the lead in promoting hotel development. We were responsible for the initiatives that brought the Ramada and got the Caversham built."

There is, however, a shortage of land for development within the borough. "There is a fair amount available on the fringes of the town — in 'Greater Reading' — but we've no control over that," he says.

"We are producing a statutory plan for the whole borough over the



Geoff Filkin, the council's new chief executive, standing in front of a sculpture, the Cartwheeling Boy, presented to Reading by its twin-city of Dusseldorf and which stands in front of the civic offices

next 10 years. The last one was produced in 1957, when no one expected the boom in new technology in Reading from the 1960s. The essence of the new plan will be that we aim for a period of retrenchment while the services and infrastructure catch up with our booming growth.

"We've already got plans for the town centre and the Kennet Valley, where new industrial development is going to take place over the next few years."

"We've got major highway investment going into the town — £100 million before the end of the century — but we can't cope with the growth of the town by simply building more roads. We would like to encourage alternative modes of transport, such as cycling and

walking. The council now has a cycling officer to work on this. "We have, I think, one of the best shopping centres in the South-East."

And the town has invested a lot in leisure in recent years. The new Rivermead leisure centre, adjacent to the Caversham Hotel, is a good example of the council's intention to provide high-quality facilities.

"There's still a lot of history in the town. What we'll be looking to do over the next 10 years will be to protect it and increase people's appreciation of the town's past. We've already been very active in promoting business-related tourism with the new hotels."

"We see Reading as having a viable economic base of its own and not as a commuter town."

Mr Hyton admits that Reading, with its population of about 135,000, "is quite a mix". He says: "We've areas which are residentially and industrially wealthy and we've areas with inner-city-type problems, albeit on a small scale."

"There are, for example, essentially two housing markets: the buoyant owner-occupied market — and that's largely being catered for on the estates outside of Reading borough itself — and then we have the areas of special housing need."

"The council is trying to focus on this, and is collaborating with housing associations to meet the demand for rented housing." Fortunately, Reading is in a strong position to improve the quality of life of all its citizens.

For growth and the good life

Geoff Filkin, who last month joined Reading council as its chief executive, says: "Reading is a new town without a new town's resources to cope with the growth that is taking place."



He sees the challenge for the council as "the recognition of the problems of reducing public-sector resources while the public's expectations for local-government services in the town are increasing. The challenge is to demonstrate that a caring local authority, despite the problems it is facing, can be well run, efficient and productive."

Before joining Reading council, Mr Filkin spent six years as director of housing services for Greenwich, in south-east London, managing a council-housing budget of £30 million.

"I came to Reading because I wanted to be a more generalist manager," he says. "The town was very attractive in terms of having a buoyant local economy — it must be simpler to provide decent public services in a booming economy. And the council is committed to the basic issues of what local government has to be about — which is trying to improve the basic services — but it is also trying to manage the growth that we are facing."

"You have this contradiction in the town between a booming economy and how that works in practice. The rate of growth in office jobs, largely outside our control, over the next seven years is important. High-tech businesses and offices are the most striking examples of Reading's economic success."

"The growth of the private economy hasn't yet been matched by public investment on the same scale. We've clearly got an enormous housing problem, partly as a consequence of the success of the local economy. House prices are going through the roof, squeezing out people."

"We also have a major problem in coping with the traffic generation that has come from growth. "We've got to meet a high

level of demand for public services when budgets are "squeezed". We've by no means seen the end of the development forces, which we welcome, but what we are seeking is to have the benefits of growth fairly distributed.

"We are happy to work with the private sector. It brings lots of skills and resources and we will be trying to meet our objectives in partnership with it."

The Labour-controlled Reading council is led by Mike Orton, a 39-year-old lecturer in management studies.

"Local government is reaching a new phase," says Mr Orton. "If local councils are to survive the onslaught from central government, they must provide top-quality services. This means top-quality management."

Labour has been in control since 1986, although the party did not achieve overall control until earlier this year.

"We were on the basis of our achievements in leisure, housing and the environment during our first administration," claims Mr Orton.

"Consolidation is now the key to this administration. We are a radical but sensible group."

"We are trying to make Reading a good town in which to work and live. Environment and leisure we see as integral to the quality of life."

Ready for poll tax

Reading Council is gearing up to meet the demands of introducing the new poll tax. Peter Innes, the borough treasurer, estimates that his department will have to send out 950,000 forms, reminders or accounts, compared with the 430,000 now sent out as part of the rates-collection programme.

He has told the council that he will need an extra 43 staff and capital expenditure of more than £1 million to get the town ready for the new tax. By 1990, says Mr Innes, poll-tax collection will require an annual budget of just under £1 million.

Reading borough was one of the first councils in the country to provide its residents with information about the tax. A pocket-size information pack was offered through a special help-line.

Businesses happy to pay for quality

Some of Reading's established companies are threatened by a scramble to convert traditional warehouses and industrial units to high rent-commanding premises, according to Paul Halford, of Buckell and Ballard, one of the town's commercial and industrial estate agents.

"The pressure for redevelopment looks unlikely to ease and is becoming a particular problem for those involved in activities which are reliant on storage space, such as the distribution industry", he says.

"The continuing growth of demand from the high technology business sector is a major contributing factor to the pressure for business space."

However, the relatively high rents do not seem to deter companies from moving into Berkshire.

Mr Halford says: "Though Berkshire appears to be an expensive location compared with counties to the west, values are purely a reflection of demand and therefore indicate the desirability of the county as an operational base. The country is much cheaper than London and offers better and quicker access to the rail, air and road networks."

generally in Reading, but there is a dearth of good-quality space in the 1,000 to 12,500 sq ft range. "The fact that there are plenty of 40,000 sq ft buildings available is little use if you are at the smaller end of the market."

The town, however, continues to attract important financial services sector tenants, he says.

ECHO OF THE SAXONS
Reading owes its name to the Saxons, who perpetuated the name of "Reada", a leader or ancestor, in their main local settlement, which was probably established around 600 AD.

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FOCUS READING

All roads lead to the jobs

The growth of Reading as a major regional centre has been matched by an increase in the number and range of professional services available to both town-based companies and those in the larger Thames Valley catchment area served by the town.



The Prudential building mirrored in the Kennet Canal

Over the past decade, accountants have influenced both the growth of professional services and also the office-block skyline of Reading as their presence has centred business activities on the town itself, rather than in London, despite the fact that it is now only 20 or 30 minutes by rail to the City.

The TKB office in Reading was opened last March to meet the demands arising out of the rapid growth of industry in the region, particularly in the computer, electronic and information technology fields, where the firm already has a well-established client base.

Another Clarks partner, Richard Lee, says of the arrival of large firms like TKB: "It may be a blow to the smaller firm which has not sufficiently expanded its expertise and services, but we can only welcome their arrival."

Reading for 75 years. Hugh Williams, a senior partner, says: "The last 15 years have seen a transformation in the way we as a profession provide our services."

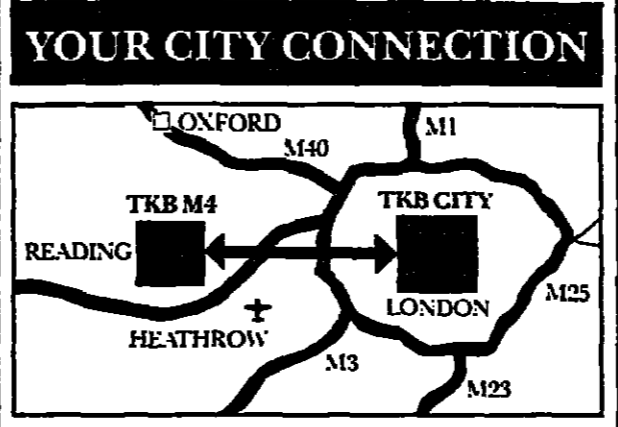
"Our expertise and range of work is far wider than anyone could have imagined 20 years ago."

"I regard it as a good development, both for Reading and for the legal profession in the town, that the area has attracted so many substantial companies and professional firms."

Mr Williams thinks that the main City law firms have tended to concentrate on profitable international business and may have lost ground in the domestic market to the growing number of regionally based commercial law firms.

"Reading might not be the centre of the universe," concedes Mr Williams, "but the historical advantages of the town as a place easy to get to have now once again come to the fore — apart from the traffic — it provides the best possible British base for so many national and international organisations."

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Abbot's House, Abbey Street, Reading RG1 3BD Telephone: 0734-504700 Telex: 297696 TKBLAW G Fax: 0734-505640

TURNER KENNETH BROWN

A rich past proudly on show

One man who continually looks backwards in Reading is Leslie Cram, the town's keeper of archaeology. But Mr Cram is a man with a vision and his plan to establish an official heritage trail could help put Reading on the tourist map.

In Forbury gardens is the abbey's inner gateway, which once housed a school attended by Jane Austen, and which leads to the sad ruins of the heart of the Benedictine abbey.

"three Bs": bulbs, biscuits and beer. Reminders of them are to be found back in the museum. "We have," says Mr Cram, "a marvellous collection of Humbley and Palmer's biscuit tin!"

"To my mind we've given undue space to the important Roman town of Silchester and we haven't built up our displays about Reading itself," says Mr Cram.

Degrees awarded by the University of Wales, Swansea

Table listing various degree programs and their respective lecturers at the University of Wales, Swansea. Includes categories like Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Social Sciences, etc.

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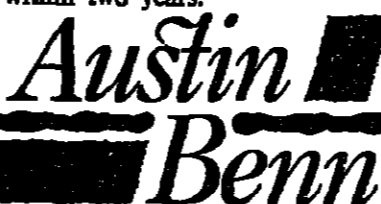
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The Chartered Institute of Building, founded in 1834, is the professional institution for building. It has some 28,000 members and is the leading association and learned society in the science and practice of building, in building education and research. The post of Membership Officer has been re-established and it is now desired to fill the vacancy as soon as possible. The appointment entails responsibility to the Head of Department for the administration of the Institute's membership policies, the admission and progression of applicants to membership, the servicing of committees and working parties, development of membership growth and day to day budget control. Candidates for this post should have a facility for clear expression both orally and in writing, and proven administrative ability. A degree or professional qualification is desirable. Salary circa £12,000 per annum. Other benefits include a pension and life assurance scheme and private medical insurance.

For further information and an application form please contact MARY WAKELING, PERSONNEL OFFICER, THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF BUILDING, ENGLEMORE, KINGS RIDE, ASCOT, BERKS. SL5 8BJ Telephone ASCOT (0990) 23355

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

A professional sales promotion agency based in West London requires a qualified Financial Controller to oversee the company's complete range of financial operations. The company runs over 1000 accounts for a wide range of clients who are major national and international organisations. Much of the company's work is done in the evenings and the ability to control costs in relation to work in labour intensive areas is essential. The successful applicant must be able to manage a team of accountants and be able to liaise with senior management reports and cash flow projections in what can be a hectic market with changing short term changes in turnover. After a successful probationary period it is intended that the financial controller should be appointed to the post. Reply to BOX 301, C/O The Times, PO Box 444, Virginia Street, London E1 9JZ.

WILKINSONS MANAGEMENT TRAINEES CIRC £9,000

Wilkinson's Furniture is a contract office and residential furniture manufacturer, and part of the major British group, Hilldown Holdings PLC.

We are looking for two highly-motivated, ambitious young people, who wish to carve out a successful career in sales or commercial management.

Initially to enter our commercial department, these trainees will gain training and "hands-on" experience in all areas of the business. Opportunities to progress to senior managerial positions exist throughout the company.

An excellent opportunity for young graduates, aged 23 to 25, with at least two years' experience in a blue chip company, who wish to progress fast in an environment of ambition and expansion.

Please send cv. and any other relevant details to:

Steven Stones
WILKINSONS FURNITURE LIMITED
Monkhill, Pontefract, West Yorkshire WF8 2NS

EUROBOND SALES City £10-16,000 Neg

We are currently working with several Japanese Banks and Securities Houses who require exceptionally bright and energetic graduates.

You should be able to demonstrate a successful educational track record and possess effective interpersonal skills. In addition you should be intelligently motivated to sell in this industry.

RESEARCH - EUROBOND MARKET City Neg
For this position you will need strong mathematical skills - a First/Upper Second class degree in mathematics, together with good presentation and communication abilities.
Please telephone Sety Akhavan or forward your cv to her.
ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS
7 PRINCES STREET, W1. 01-690 7202

RAK Computer Services

SALES EXECUTIVE

This successful IBM Dealership has gained respect in business circles which stems from a commitment to high standards. At present the Company's clients include prestigious companies within East Anglia. This has been achieved through the recruitment of sales professionals who have the credibility and experience required to sell into the business sector.

There is a requirement for an additional Sales Executive to join an established team. Suitable applicants should have proven experience of micro systems, in depth knowledge of commercial business applications and able to demonstrate the ability to handle sales queries. Particular areas of interest are Integrated Accounting, Office Automation Products and Networking.

The position offers the opportunity of career progression within a professional environment and the rewards and status associated with a leading computer company.

Applications should be in writing to: Brian Webb, RAK Computer Services Ltd., Wesman House, 105, Prince of Wales Road, Norwich, Norfolk, NR1 1DW

ABILITY STABILITY EXPERIENCE

ARGUS SHIELD LTD

Is pleased to announce that Anthony Husher, General Manager of Guarding Services, London, has been promoted to head up an exciting new venture ARGUS SHIELD INTERNATIONAL to provide specialist security services to overseas market. Argus Shield is therefore looking for a General Manager to run the London Guarding Division, turnover c.£5million, for further details please write to:

Stuart Lowden, Operations Director, Argus Shield Ltd, College House, Wrights Lane, London W8 5SH.

PROFESSIONAL SALES OPPORTUNITIES

Hermès of Paris have immediate vacancies for: Professional Sales Staff to join the teams in our New Bond Street, Knightsbridge and City outlets. An additional opportunity also exists for an Experienced Cashier for our New Bond Street branch.

Applicants must be enthusiastic, well presented and experienced. Knowledge of a second language would be an advantage. Competitive salaries and attractive benefits.

For more information contact: Floor 10, 105, Prince of Wales Road, London W1.

LOOKING FOR A CAREER MOVE? £15,000 p.a. O.T.E.

Our London based company is seeking outgoing enthusiastic people (19+) to achieve excellent income and potential management within 12 months.

For more information telephone: 01-580 8879

PALL MALL MONEY MANAGEMENT

A subsidiary of the Chase De Vere (Pall Mall) Group of Companies offers vacancies for trainee consultants. High income potential and real long term career progression.

For full details contact Martin Mullany on 01-930 7242 or send C.V. to: 125 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5EA

START A GREAT CITY CAREER

Substantial income and capital gain for those considering a career move within or into the financial world.

For detailed information call Anne Tynhill on: 01 379 4306, West End Office, M.I. GROUP

RUCK

LETTING NEGOTIATOR
Specialist in buying & successful letting of property in the financial world. Free valuation and advice on all aspects of the property market. Tel: 01-581 1741

01-481 4481

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

GROUP COMPUTER SERVICES MANAGER

Norwich c£40,000 + Car and Financial Sector Benefits

Our client, Norwich Union, is one of the fastest growing insurance and financial services groups in the UK, a market leader and an equal opportunities employer.

Computing has been established in the group since the early 60's and during 1988 is planned to expand to twin-sited 3060-600Es, running under MVS/XA. This will service several thousand internal terminals and a rapidly growing network of connections in the Independent Financial Adviser and general insurance Broker markets.

The Group Computer Services Manager will be a key member of the senior management team and will be expected to contribute to the formulation of overall technical architectures and policies for a large and professional management services division. Personal responsibility will be for the preparation and development of long-term technical strategies for the computer services functions and for the day-to-day operational management of sophisticated production and communications facilities, covering both voice

and data. There will be sizeable capital and revenue budgets to manage in addition to staff resources.

Candidates, probably graduates, should have proven experience of running a large computer services facility in a substantial organisation using IBM compatible mainframes, servicing an extensive internal network in handling a high volume of transactions. A good appreciation of business and financial planning is essential and experience of the EDI market and the financial services industry would be seen as distinct advantages.

The salary and benefits package will reflect the seniority of the appointment and includes a wide range of financial sector benefits.

Please write with full personal and career details to Michael Hordern, Manager, Executive Selection Division, BIS Applied Systems, 20 Upper Ground, London SE1 9PN, quoting reference G1572. Alternatively telephone: 01-633 0866 for an application form.

BIS Applied Systems

Executive Selection Division



CONSULTANCY · SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT · TRAINING · PERSONNEL SERVICES

THE SUNDAY TIMES
THE TIMES

News International Newspapers Limited

TELEPHONE SALES OPPORTUNITIES

News International are publishers of Britain's largest group of National newspapers, a group which includes a range of successful titles such as News of the World, the Sun and Today, as well as The Times and The Sunday Times.

The busy Classified Advertisement Department handles over 6,000 calls per day. Due to our success, the number of calls is constantly increasing, and this is why we now need more people to join our telephone sales team, on either a full or part-time basis.

You don't need a telephone sales background - just a minimum of 2 years office experience and you must also be:

- ★ Intelligent articulate and numerate
- ★ Able to type (minimum 35 wpm) and spell
- ★ Aged between 21 and 35
- ★ Able to work under pressure
- ★ Ambitious and tenacious
- ★ Enjoy talking to people and have a sense of humour!

If you can combine the above with a good telephone manner, you could join one of our professional teams, at our offices based a short walk away from Tower Hill or Aldgate East tube stations. We will give you full training on our computerised system and on sales techniques.

In addition to an excellent salary and bonus, there's a superb range of benefits to include 6 weeks holiday, free BUPA, an excellent pension scheme and a subsidised staff restaurant.

If you think you'd enjoy the challenge telephone sales can offer, ring:

01-822 9137 or 01-822 9342

GIVEN THE CHANCE

could YOU be successful in Computer Sales?

Apple Computer (UK) Limited has set the standard for "user friendly" systems. With glowing reviews in the national and business press, their computers have already made a remarkable impact in many areas of business and commerce.

Interest is at such a level that additional Field Sales Executives are urgently required by appointed dealers throughout the UK to convert enquiries into firm orders. Not that you will be thrown in at the deep end, because Apple provide a comprehensive two week residential training course to teach you all aspects of computing and computer sales techniques!

Vacancies currently exist nationally, but especially in London area, Middx, Herts, Surrey, Berks, Northants, Cambridge, Cleveland, Hants, Birmingham, Glasgow and Manchester.

A basic salary negotiable between £10-£12,000 plus car and open ended incentive scheme will give expected target earnings of c£20,000 plus, dependent on experience and location.

So, if you are aged 23-35, well educated, with at least eighteen months sales experience (preferably in a business to business environment) this could be your chance to establish yourself in a competitive and challenging, yet uniquely rewarding career.

Phone or write with full CV to Graham Langley quoting ref: 135. (Next course starting shortly).

Clifton-Donkin Ltd. (Recruitment Consultants) 01-930 0366
Malcolm House, 12 Orange St., Haymarket, London WC2H 7ED. (answering machine outside office hours)

Specialists in Sales Recruitment



THE LEVITT GROUP

PENSIONS ADMINISTRATOR

The Levitt Group is a diversified financial services organisation, which has for 12 years offered specialist advice on corporate and personal financial matters.

We are inviting applicants to join us with at least two years experience of pensions administration — to liaise with both clients and insurance companies ensuring the smooth running of large pension schemes.

In return for your commitment and motivation we offer excellent competitive salaries coupled with exceptional benefits.

For more information write with c.v. to

Alicia Bird, Recruitment Officer at Devonshire House 1, Devonshire Street, London, W.1. or telephone her on 01-636-5992.



Assistant Keeper

Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art

... to be involved in the general administration of the Gallery, the care and study of the collection; preparing catalogues, working on temporary exhibitions and giving talks on the collection.

You should have a degree, preferably with honours, in the History of Art, or in a subject including substantial study of the History of Art. A working knowledge of at least 2 foreign languages is desirable.

Salary: Grade E £10,150-£13,005; Grade D £12,020-£15,820; Grade 7 £15,630-£21,100. Starting salary and level of appointment according to qualifications and experience.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 17 August 1988) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G353882.

NATIONAL GALLERIES OF SCOTLAND

An equal opportunity employer

For an IMMEDIATE INTERVIEW. Contact your nearest branch NOW!

Sales/Administration Manager

£14,000 + Bonus + Car

Our clients, one being a leading Cosmetic Company and the other a professional graphic design company are seeking to recruit a professional administrator to organise and run their offices. Excellent chance to grow with these rapidly expanding companies.

If you have good all round Sales/Admin background please ring for an immediate interview.

Field Sales Engineer

To £15K Basic OTE £25K

Our Client, market leaders in their field require an experienced person selling to the distribution market, with computer related knowledge. The successful applicant will need to have drive, enthusiasm and the initiative to succeed in this exciting market place.

Network Appointments Ltd.

LONDON READING SWINDON BRISTOL
01-828-6994 0734-500561 0793-01222 0272-293300
Perlemp Group plc.

SALES NETWORK

Computer Sales Executive

To £17K Basic + Comm + Car + OTE £30K + Benefits

Experienced Sales Executive with experience in the industry and a good track record. Excellent opportunity and exciting career prospects.

Sales Executives

"Blue Chip" Communications Systems Basic £15,000 OTE £25K
We have been retained by this rapidly expanding communications subsidiary of one of the world's leading manufacturers of Hi-Tech Electronics Equipment to assist them with the expansion of their current sales force selling ISDN, Exchange Systems to the business sector.

Applicants are invited from successful sales professionals, not essentially with previous telecommunications experience for current vacancies in the South West in the following categories offering achievable earnings well in excess of £25K.

MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY

c.£16,500

Our client is an expanding City-based firm of solicitors who seeks someone with recruitment experience to fulfil a demanding role within the Personnel Department. This appointment will focus on your ability to make decisions and solve problems independently, often under considerable pressure, and offers real scope for someone committed to their career. Duties will include recruitment and pastoral care of secretarial staff, budgeting, administration and documentation of personnel-related matters.

We look forward to hearing from candidates in their 30s who can promise an abundance of stamina, charm and patience, together with keyboard skills and the professionalism to cope with extensive contact with management and support staff alike.

Please telephone Sabina Stewart on 01-588 3535 or send cv to 18 Eldon Street, London EC2M 7LA.

Crone Corkill RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

TREVOR JAMES CITY

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS & HIGH PACKAGE

As part of Blue Arrow PLC, the IPS Group is committed to plan of continued expansion. We would be interested to hear from experienced consultants who feel that they can offer valuable experience in either the Banking or Securities sectors.

For a confidential discussion please call SHARON BROWN, LLB, MECI DIRECTOR

Telephone: 01-920 9512

TREVOR JAMES CITY
62-64 Moorgate, London EC2R 6EL
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS



JAPANESE

Japan Recruitment operates in the selection of Japanese speaking personnel at all levels. We have a diverse client base covering the major financial, commercial and industrial sectors.

For further details of our services please contact
Suzanne Rains or William Franklin
Japan Recruitment
5, Sherwood Street, London W1V 7BA.
Tel 01-734-4421/4422.

SENIOR QUANTITY SURVEYOR OVERSEAS OPPORTUNITIES

G S L E S.p.A. Civil Engineering Contractors (ITALY) has vacancies for first class candidates to work overseas joining a large team engaged in the engineering and management of a Road Project in Kenya.

Applicants must have not less than 13 years evidenced experience in contractual matters and have a sufficient knowledge of using IBM Programs. Previous overseas experience especially in African environment would be an advantage.

An attractive remuneration package will be offered including tax free salary with flights paid, plus pension, free life assurance and medical schemes.

Please apply in writing to:

G S L E S.p.A.
Civil Engineering Contractors
Via Bonzio, 6 00192 Rome (ITALY)
ATTENTION TO: MR. F. PETROSILLO
Please mark all correspondence "Private"

CAREER WITH FULL TRAINING IN MARKETING & BUSINESS TRAINING COMPANY

FOR FRENCH NATIONALS (who speak good English) OR ENGLISH PEOPLE (bilingual in French)

This UK based company is expanding its Paris office and is looking for bright, well-educated people aged between 23-28 years old, who are ready to develop their career.

Previous sales or management experience is an advantage: all applicants must have some full-time work experience.

The job involves marketing, training and communication and the company is looking for people to be part of a team who will move to Paris in September. These people are to be trained as the future management of the Paris organisation. It means hard work, long hours and a high commitment to learning.

If you're interested in getting to the top and are willing to start at the bottom, please call Francesca Scott on:

624-5857

RECRUITMENT

CENTRE MANAGER

New prestigious commercial development on Chelsea/Fulham borders requires Centre Manager to commence late August.

General responsibilities for smooth running of the Centre - security, post, supervision of cleaners etc.

Neat appearance essential. Previous experience preferred. References required.

Hours 8am - 6pm Monday - Friday. Good salary. PLEASE APPLY IN WRITING TO:

Jackson-Stups & Staff,
14 Curzon Street, London W1Y 7FH.

Computer Services Executive

£13,000 + Excellent Benefits

This multinational company is seeking computer support for their sales department. You will be very PC literate, enjoy presentation work, do computer back-up, in-putting and be able to check codings. There is a great deal of scope for the right person.

LESUE GLOGAU
THE BOARDROOM
01 408 2048

YOUNG OIL ANALYST to £18,000

An opportunity to make a real and important contribution as a member of a small elite team within the European H.O. of an International Oil Co. You will ideally be aged 25-30 with 5 years experience in analysis and evaluation of the Western European Oil Market and with good writing skills. Excellent career prospects.

C.V.'s please to: R. Stockton M.D., Stockton Associates, (Rec Cons), 36-38, Glasshouse Street, London W1R 5RE.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT £15-20,000

Do you enjoy the people business but feel you need advice more in a company structure different from your own? What can't be done by the one who believes in giving clients and applicants the very highest quality service? And the belief is shared by consultants nationwide, with responsibility, autonomy to carry out the job, and accountability for it.

If you are engaged in the successful recruitment business, have a good record of achievement, and think our company might work with you, please call Eddy Tan, by a fax: 01-408 0424.

Tate

SMALL LONDON GARDENING FIRM

Needs hard worker to work country house. Duties include vehicle maintenance, accountancy, photo taking and printing and house repairs. Must have car. Tel: 01-748 8848.

EARN £200-£300 PER WEEK

by leaving samples of products with schools and businesses. New form of low pressure sales. No experience necessary. Must have car. Telephone (0992) 469354

Insurance wanted, best rates. Minimum investment, best returns. Investment opportunities. Tel: 01-408 2048

Insurance wanted, best rates. Minimum investment, best returns. Investment opportunities. Tel: 01-408 2048

01-481 4481

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

publications and information executive

Corporate Headquarters
London S.W.1.
Age range 27-34

Up to £18,000 + benefits



B-A-T Industries is one of the world's largest enterprises with interests in financial services, retailing, paper and tobacco.

An opportunity has arisen for a young and enthusiastic professional to join our small Public Affairs Department.

This position will primarily involve editing and producing the Group's management journal "Outlook" and a variety of other in-house publications; originating articles; proof reading; and liaising with designers and printers. The job will also involve supervising an Information Assistant responsible for the daily Press Cuttings service.

Ideally you will be a graduate with several years' relevant experience. You should have well developed writing and editing skills and the willingness to use a word processor. A creative approach and the proven ability to communicate clearly and tactfully are essential together with the flexibility to handle a wide range of Public Affairs tasks.

This excellent career opportunity carries an attractive salary and significant benefits including non-contributory pension scheme and BUPA.

Please send comprehensive c.v. to: Mark Parker, Personnel Manager, B-A-T Industries p.l.c., Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0NL.

McKinsey & Company

UK Administration

Late 20's

c. £30,000 package

McKinsey & Co is the leading global Management Consultancy, with offices in most of the world's major cities. The London office was established in the 1950's and is one of the largest in the practice.

It is now seeking to recruit someone in the later 20's/early 30's, who, reporting to the Administration Director, will be responsible for all aspects of corporate and personal taxation planning and management, employment policies, director and employee benefits, individual pensions, insurance, property and vehicles.

Previous relevant experience, at least in part, and/or a qualification as ACSA, ATII, or

barrister would be helpful.

But by far the most important qualities sought are personal: independence and flexibility of mind, initiative, and the ability to communicate at the highest intellectual level and put sophisticated resources to best possible use.

Candidates who can meet these exacting requirements and relish the challenge of joining the world's leading Management Consultancy should contact Peter Wilson FCA, by sending a full cv, in strict confidence to him at Management Appointments Limited, Finland House, 56 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4RN. Tel: 01-930 6314.



MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

IMC has re-structured its client base to prepare for additional profitable growth in 1989. It requires a number of highly experienced practical executives with general management experience and backgrounds in FINANCE, MARKETING and MRP.

Good personality and presence together with effective verbal, written and self-presentation skills are standard requirements, but they must be underpinned by sound analytical and numeracy skills, hard business common sense and an ability to deliver positive results for clients, on time.

The nature of our business involves dedicated application to meet the needs of our clients whose high expectations dictate the pace and ethos of our operations. Age range 30-45; locations Manchester, Midlands and South.

Precise but informative applications, stating current/last salary, to:

The Chief Executive at IMC CONSULTING GROUP, 6-8 Albany Road, Cardiff CF2 3RP

CAN YOU AFFORD TO MISS

... the opportunity of developing new accounting systems in a multi-million pound organisation? The Inland Revenue has a vacancy for an Accountant. The environment is dynamic and provides the opportunity for innovative ideas in solving complex problems in a large and diverse department. It has recently introduced a new local budgeting system in offices throughout the UK and is now in the process of developing the budgeting and accounting systems to match its future needs. A strategy document has been prepared which outlines the developments for the next 3 years. These include the provision of integrated systems for:

- accounts payable • commitments • fixed assets
- inventories • costing • accounts receivable

You will lead a small but highly-motivated team in successfully developing and implementing these systems and you will require energy, enthusiasm, commitment and organisational and management skills.

If you apply you must hold one of the following accountancy qualifications: ICA, CACA, CIMA, CIPFA with an independent enquiring mind. You should also have the intellectual capacity to analyse financial requirements and provide appropriate accounting solutions. You will need to have, or be ready to acquire, knowledge of the latest computer systems and techniques.

The post is located in pleasant surroundings in Worthing in West Sussex although a considerable amount of travelling to London will be required. The salary will be in the range £17,310 to £21,100 pa.

If you would like to discuss details of the post informally before submitting your application, please contact Paul Wittingham, telephone 01-438 6724, Inland Revenue, Somerset House.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 23 August 1988) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours).

Please quote ref: G7651.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

MASON EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

London £24K + Package

This subsidiary of a large PLC Company is looking for a qualified Accountant as a Director designate. Your previous experience should include the development of computer based management information systems.

TRAINING - Cambridge - £18K Package. Training and Sales Consultant required for Management Training operation.

BUSINESS ANALYST - London - £Neg.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT - Kent - £28K.

INSURANCE MANAGER - Croydon - £Neg.

ENGINEERING GRADUATE - Kent - £Neg A.A.E.

GRADUATES - Why wait to see your future job advertised first - Come and discuss your future career with me NOW.

Consult with the Professionals.

Ring WENDY GEORGE on 01-464-6460 for a London or Bromley Interview.

FIRST JOB CHANGE PERSONNEL

SUSSEX UP TO £20,000 + RELOCATION

Rapidly expanding company in financial services sector seeks a fast track graduate already working in personnel, who is both numerate and computer literate. You will be expected to move on to a more senior personnel role within 2 years. CV's in the first instance to MR&D LIMITED, 54 RUSSELL SQUARE, LONDON WC1B 4HP.

BRITAIN'S PREMIER INDEPENDENT VIDEO & RECORD DISTRIBUTOR

TELEPHONE SALES MANAGER

To control their direct incoming telephone orders and out going telephone sales department. Candidates possessing a general ability in team-management, we are looking for someone to motivate an outgoing young and keen staff. Knowledge of the industry an obvious advantage. This is a responsible position within the company and you will be working under the direction of our National Sales Manager. We offer a competitive salary, Staff Purchase Scheme - Staff Video Personal Pension Plan - Staff Share Scheme - Staff Video Personal Pension Plan. Staff Salary £10,000.

Please apply with C.V. to Mr H Day, S Gold & Sons (Records) Ltd, Gold House, 88 Fitzgibbon Road, Leyton, London, E16 7EL. 01 530 2800

MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT

One year contract involving extensive research into Senior Personnel. Would ideally suit a graduate with at least two years experience of working in a large organisation. Computer literacy and an analytical approach essential.

Call Richard Black on 01-483-7588 Manley Summers Rec. Cons.

NEW PARIS INTERIOR DESIGN SHOP 7 iams RESPONSABLE

Qualities, creative presentation, dynamism, spatial concepts, your creative ideas, 1980's etc. Aux clients professionnels et particuliers. Address: 100 Avenue de la Gaiete, Paris, France. Tel: 01 47 33 11 11

Terra Nova Insurance

ASSISTANT TO COMPANY SECRETARY City of London

Terra Nova is a major London Market Reinsurance Company authorised to transact all classes of insurance business with a premium income for 1987 in excess of £160m.

Reporting directly to the Company Secretary the job provides an outstanding career opportunity to develop a wide ranging knowledge of company secretarial, insurance and pension activities.

Candidates with a graduate level education will be in the age range of 23-27 and progressing towards the finals of ICSA. Good communication skills are essential with knowledge of computer systems preferably gained in a financial services company.

Salary will be competitive supported by an excellent benefits package including non contributory pension, medical insurance and fully subsidised restaurant facilities.

If you are interested please telephone me for further details or write to me enclosing your C.V.

John A Davies
PERSONNEL SERVICES CONTROLLER
01-283 3000

Terra Nova House
41-43 Mincing Lane
London EC3R 7SP



A Key Role in a Large Central Services Environment

c.£16,000 London

Commercially-astute, progressive, pro-active - that's the working style of the Royal Borough, a rapidly-developing Inner London Borough, committed to providing high level services at optimum cost and efficiency.

As Principal Administrative Officer in Central Services, it will be your task to maintain and develop this approach throughout all our operational centres. Specifically, you will be responsible for the management of the Administration Section, associated Central Services, Telephone Services and the Local Land Charges Section.

Beyond this, you will support the Central Services Manager at an operational level in the management of contracted out services, in-house and outside negotiation and accommodation facilities and be involved in a number of project based and research activities.

The role calls for proven relevant management experience in a local authority or commercial services environment and a firm grasp of telecommunications. Finest communication skills and a flexible, initiative-taking approach will be essential.

In return we offer a competitive salary in the range £15,000-£18,000 (pay award pending) together with generous benefits including relocation assistance where necessary.

For further information contact Keith Holland on 01-837 5464 ext. 2179. For an application form call the Recruitment Service on 01-837 8562. The Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea - The Town Hall, Hornet Street, London W8 7NX.



NEWS INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPERS LIMITED ADVERTISEMENT SERVICES OPPORTUNITIES

A Junior Research Executive and also a Trainee are required to provide research support for the Advertisement Sales Departments of both Times Newspapers Limited and News Group Newspapers Limited.

Junior Research Executive

Experience in accessing the National Readership Survey and Target Group Index via computer or a high level of understanding of these databases is essential.

A minimum of one years experience with a media owner, research company or advertising agency, and a flair for figures, is needed to meet the challenge of this exciting opportunity.

Trainee

The ideal candidate will be educated to degree standard, be numerate and have an appreciation of computers.

The successful applicants will receive generous starting salaries; will join the Company BUPA scheme after three months; and will receive four weeks annual holiday in the first two years increasing to six weeks thereafter.

Applicants for both positions should write, enclosing a CV to:

Julie Ferguson
Advertisement Services Manager
News International Newspapers Limited
P O Box 496 Virginia Street
London E1 9XT



Borough Security Manager

Up to £21,231 per annum inclusive + appropriate user car allowance

Required to design, plan and control the Borough's security functions in order to protect its personnel, assets and information adequately. The post-holder will manage both in-house and contracted security staff.

Applicants (male or female) must have considerable previous security experience of a senior level. They must also have previous managerial and supervisory experience. In addition, candidates must demonstrate an ability to design and implement security systems and procedures, report writing skills, and the ability to communicate with all levels of staff and external organisations.

For an application form and further details please ring 01-478 3020 ext. 2186 (answering service), or write to the Director of Technical Services, Town Hall, 128-142 High Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1DD.

Please quote reference number 7/469.

Closing date: 12 August 1988.



Course Administrator
£11,000 plus paid overtime

A substantial international organisation requires an alert graduate to be responsible for the organisation of in house training courses. You should have at least a year's working experience with excellent organisational abilities and be capable of handling responsibility. Duties involve dealing with organisers to establish specific requirements for particular courses; arranging printing and distribution of literature plus attending courses when appropriate. A good communicator essential with some previous administrative experience. Keyboard skills preferable. Age 23-27.

01-437 6314



NICE

We are searching for a reliable and energetic person to work for us. Length of weekly work: 18 hours. Homebased and cooking. Add to learn English language wanted. Good hand and budget control. Pocket money: 1000/1300 FF per month or more according to competence. Send Curriculum Vitae and photograph to MR LACROIX, 59 Avenue Georges Clemenceau, 06000 NICE FRANCE.

WHICH CAREER SUITS BEST?

Professional Guidance and Assessment for all ages. 15-24 yrs Career Careers 25-34 yrs Progress Changes 35-54 yrs Renewal, 2nd Careers Full details in free brochure - CAREER ANALYSTS 30 Cheapside Place W1 01-335 5452 (24 hrs)

CITY COMMODITY BROKERS

require trainee account executives. Previous experience necessary. High potential earnings. For further details please contact Mr. Fife or Mr. Turnbull on 01 481 3170

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

**MANAGER
HONG KONG
AIR CONDITIONING
EQUIPMENT**

Manufacturing company recently acquired by a major publicly listed group now plan to recruit an engineering manager with potential to become a subsidiary board appointee within two years.

The main responsibilities of the position will be to lead a small team engaged in the design and development of air conditioning unitary and air movement products and to head the quality control section.

Relevant experience in design, development, QC procedures and manufacturing processes associated with air conditioning essential, knowledge of 'Ashrae' codes and standards for refrigeration circuits and systems also a pre-requisite.

Applicants must possess relevant engineering qualifications and be aged around 30.

The Company offers an attractive remuneration and benefits package to the selected candidate.

Please write in confidence, with full c.v. and recent photograph to:

Lord Derwent
Hutchison Whampoa (Europe) Ltd
9 Queen Street, Mayfair, London W1X 7PH

**SPAIN
CHIEF
EXECUTIVE**

Preferably Spanish National to head diversified printing and publishing company with English Language Publication and plans for aggressive expansion and media acquisitions in Spain and UK. Acquisitions in the media would be proposed.

Successful candidates must have a proven track record as he/she will be responsible for profit and loss and report directly to The Board. Whilst position would be Spanish based, considerable travel involved.

Excellent package to be negotiated. Apply first instance to Box No. L95.

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Finding yourself redundant is a worrying and depressing experience - but it can open your eyes to something better. This could be the ideal opportunity to look for a challenging, worthwhile career, with the prospect of a high income.

At Allied Dunbar there are career opportunities for those used to a high standard of living through their entrepreneurial and professional skills in sales.

If you have been made redundant in the City or are likely to be so, why not contact us and explore the possibility of a long term future with a financial services group whose growth over the last 17 years has placed it among the leaders in its field.

Take the first steps by contacting Gerry Bessent or Peter Richards on 01 571 7200 (London & Home Counties).

Allied Dunbar Assurance plc is an equal opportunities group.



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EXECUTIVE
OPPORTUNITIES
NATIONWIDE**

Applicants, male or female, aged between 24-49 will have previously completed sales or marketing courses and must be ready to take on responsibility early.

Structured training being given over three years during which level of responsibility to demonstrate sales ability. This is an employed contract and successful candidates will enjoy many of the benefits one would expect from a large international company.

Telephone Sales Manager at Southampton (0703) 841414 or write to: Sun Life of Canada, 100 Victoria Road, Southampton, SO4 6JY. South East 100.

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Reply to BOX L78.

ENGINEERING

PROPOSALS Expert, Germany, to edit and highlight English text in order to sell a defence system to the Ministry. 3 month contract. High rate. 0224 677770. Gilcom Valley Garry.

BANKING & ACCOUNTANCY

HONG KONG



Specialists

Ernst & Whinney is a major international accountancy firm seeking imaginative, career-orientated people with a professional outlook. Continuing practice growth in our Hong Kong firm enables us to offer further challenging opportunities in the following specialist areas to suitably experienced Chartered Accountants:-

EDP Audit Manager.

The successful candidate, probably in his early thirties, will be expected to head up and expand our EDP Department and therefore to have a proven track record in EDP audit.

Key tasks will include management of EDP audit and the provision of EDP support to our audit department. Also included will be the provision of EDP related MCS services such as software and hardware selection and implementation and the training of staff in EDP audit and the presentation of seminars.

Training Manager.

Reporting directly to a partner, the appointee will head the training department and be responsible for co-ordinating training programmes, developing training course material, liaising with other Ernst & Whinney offices worldwide and in the Far East. He/She will also be responsible for presenting some of the training programmes.

Ideal candidates should be qualified Accountants with at least 7 years experience preferably in public practice. Previous experience in the professional development field would be an advantage. They should also possess excellent communication skills, have organisational ability and be creative and independent.

Technical Manager.

The successful candidate will be responsible for all technical services in our Hong Kong firm which will include researching and formulating policies on accounting and auditing issues. He/She will act as technical adviser to internal committees as well as to clients and ensure that the highest standards of quality are maintained in the firm's services.

The ideal candidate should be a self starter, with a minimum of at least 7 years professional experience in a major firm. He/She should demonstrate a sound knowledge and interest in technical developments and possess good communication skills.

Our remuneration packages have been designed to attract the highest calibre individuals. If you are seeking a challenging professional career with excellent remuneration, please write initially with detailed curriculum vitae to Barry Compton. A visiting partner will be conducting interviews during August.



We are the London-based European Division of a worldwide conference management organisation. We have the following two openings:

CONFERENCE/SEMINAR PROGRAMMER

This person will organise seminars and conferences by identifying and contacting speakers, coordinating course content and preparing sales brochures and mailplans. The person we seek will have 5 or more years of business experience preferably in the aerospace/defence business as an employee of a high tech company or working for the MoD itself or with related seminar/conference experience.

MARKET RESEARCHER

This person will organise and carry out research projects relating to companies and industries in the high tech field, identify and obtain lists of professionals throughout Europe, and track other seminar/conference activity. The person we seek will have had at least 5 years experience in industrial market research at a senior level, preferably in a high tech environment.

For both these positions, fluency in one or more European languages is a definite plus. A good salary will be offered in each case, based on experience and qualifications. Interested persons should send a c.v. and salary history to:

Managing Director
Box 274
London WC1B 4ER

**VALETRATIC
DIRECTOR (DESIGNATE)
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Valetmatic Limited, the U.K.'s largest manufacturer of Car Wash and Forecourt Valeting Equipment are reorganising their sales force to expand export sales.

As a result, we require a Home Sales Manager who has the experience, drive and capability to achieve Directorship level within 12 months.

We also require 2 Regional UK Sales Representatives who have experience in selling capital goods to the Garage/Forecourt industries.

A knowledge of the Car Wash industry would be an advantage. Successful applicants can expect an exceptional salary package to include bonuses and inclusion in the company's share option scheme.

Interested parties should apply, in the first instance, in writing to:

Mr. P.A. Allin,
Managing Director
Valetratic Limited
Elles House
Elles Road
Farnborough
Hants GU14 7QU

**ENICHEM ELASTOMERS LIMITED
CHEMICAL ENGINEERS**

EniChem Elastomers Limited, leading manufacturers of synthetic rubber and latexes, have vacancies for Chemical Engineers at their Hythe Plant, near Southampton.

We are looking for either new graduates, male or female, with a good degree in Chemical engineering, or alternatively, qualified Chemical Engineers, with at least five years industrial experience in the oil, petro-chemical or chemical industries, together with a positive preference for production and associated technology rather than for design and project work. The candidates selected can expect genuine career opportunities within the Company.

Attractive salaries will be paid to the successful applicants together with relocation expenses if necessary. Company benefits include 5 weeks holiday per year, Sports and Social Club and Staff Canteen.

Please write with full C.V. to:
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EniChem Elastomers Limited,
Chastillon Road,
Hythe,
SOUTHAMPTON SO4 6JY.
Tel: Southampton (0703) 894919.

Treasury

Young ACA

£24,000 + bens

The Treasury function of this major UK conglomerate, with an international dealing volume in excess of £15bn, seeks a recently qualified graduate Chartered Accountant to train in all aspects of Treasury Management.

The department's responsibilities combine dealing activities, position/performance monitoring, liaison with bankers, risk management and the necessary interface with the statutory and internal accounting functions.

This high profile role based in Central London will offer the successful candidate substantial career development opportunities either within Group Treasury or into a line role in the UK or Continental Europe.

For further details and a full confidential briefing please contact Richard Crofts-Bolster L.L.B.

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Financial Recruitment Consultants, 37/41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. 01-831 1101 (24 hours)

BANKING & ACCOUNTANCY

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FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

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Reporting to the Manager of the division and leading a team of twenty-one staff, this individual will be responsible for all aspects of accounting and financial control. Particular emphasis will be placed on the implementation of integrated computer systems covering operational and financial areas, as well as actively participating in the overall management of the division.

The ideal candidate will be a qualified accountant, aged 27-36 years, with at least two years experience in a commercial environment, and preferably some exposure to standard costing systems.

In addition to an excellent salary, bonus scheme, and big company benefits, this position offers outstanding opportunities for advancement, both at company and group levels, with a genuine prospect of general management in the medium-term.

For further information please call Patrick Johnson on 01-437 0464, or write enclosing brief details to the address below.

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A busy West End literary agency is looking for a person with at least 5 years experience of royalty accounting to fill a senior position in the accounts department.

Although the work will mainly be the control and transfer of static and historical contract data onto computer, all other aspects of royalty accounting will be involved.

This job will appeal to a hard-worker looking for an interesting, varied, responsible and secure position. Salary commensurate with age and experience. Please write with C.V. to:

Hazel Hill, Company Administrator,
Carris Brown/John Parquharson,
162-168 Regent St., London W1.
No agencies.

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Contact Liz Hughes;
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CALL: (0935) 814914

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Apply with full cv, in confidence, to Mervyn Baker.

G.A. WHEELER & CO.
ACCOUNTANTS
30 Old Market Wisbech, Cambs. PE13 1NE

HORIZONS

'Rediscovering the motivation to get up in the morning' Keep jobs in the club

"It's like going to the office - you plan your work for the day."
"I've rediscovered the motivation to get up in the morning with a sense of purpose."
"My cv was like a skeleton, no meat on the bones; now it's 100 per cent better and it's professionally presented."

These are just a few of the positive comments I heard about the first Job Club in England directed specifically to the needs of unemployed professional and executive staff.

Nottingham Management Job Club opened in January this year in the middle of the city's refurbished Lace Market area. Funded by the Department of Employment, it is run by the East Midlands Regional Management Centre (EMRMC), a training development and consultancy organization whose slogan is "helping people to help themselves."

Anyone from supervisory level upwards who has been unemployed for six months is eligible to join and take advantage of a whole range of job-finding facilities and expertise - and all they pay for is the coffee. However, since job seeking is a job in itself, members must make a substantial commitment of their time and effort; they have to attend on a regular basis, say half a day for four days a week. "It's a case of all or nothing really," says the programme leader, Elaine Hodgson. "Popping in every now and then won't get you anywhere."

In return, club members can have their letters of application and cvs word-processed by the secretaries Nickie Hall and Lesley Travis (a service not normally available in most job clubs) or they can type their own. Facilities include a photocopier, free postage and stationery, and a small room set aside for making telephone calls to employers.

The club takes the quality dailies for advert scanning and keeps reference works like *Kompass* and *Kelly's* for research on companies. Travel expenses are paid to cover journeys in to Nottingham.

People come to the Management Job Club via referral from the Job Centre, after seeing publicity in the local media, and, increasingly, by word of mouth recommendation. The club organizes two intakes every three weeks, with about a dozen members per group, and during the first fortnight they all participate in a job search development programme, led by Elaine Hodgson, a graduate with experience in retail management, who has worked for two years on training provision for the unemployed.

Job search covers letters, cvs and gives an opportunity for interview role-playing. Informal group discussion is very

important and people learn from one another - an unemployed personnel officer recently presented a view of candidates from "the other side of the desk." "We help them to analyse what a company wants," says Elaine, "and then to target on those requirements."

When I visited the club in May, about 100 members had enrolled since opening and of these 33 had secured appointments. Elaine is extremely pleased with this success ratio - bearing in mind that

Morale is vitally important in job seeking, and says Derek Morgan, mutual support among unemployed can work wonders

members are looking for fairly high-level jobs and the selection can take two or three months from first approach to appointment.

"The job market is improving," she says, "and persistence does pay off. The most heartening examples are the people who arrive saying that they are too old to get another job, and a few months later they are coming back into the Job Club office with a bunch of flowers." A man in his late fifties recently obtained a production job in the packaging industry and has now contacted the club to recruit more staff.

The roll of honour posted on the clubroom wall lists the members who have secured employment or gone on to further training and is a constant reminder of the value of perseverance. It is also testimony to the variety of work experience that one can meet here - occupations include transport manager, trainee programme, researcher (community programme), market trader, actor (enterprise allowance), oil rig geologist, and one ambitious wag has written "newspaper magnate" to describe his media job.

A "rogues gallery" of photographs of club members also adorns the walls, with coloured stars showing how they get on - red for full-time employment, gold for part-time or temporary, green for further education and white for self-employment. A progress wall-chart records approaches to potential employers and a stop press board displays members' pin-ups - articles and notices relevant to the job hunt.

Certainly everyone I spoke to is very positive about their experience here. "It gets you back into the working discipline," says a sales manager. Another

member points to the club's role in "developing a positive frame of mind and retaining this in view of the number of rejections that you will receive." A mechanical engineer said: "I was underselling myself and not making the most of my previous responsibilities," which is a common failing.

There is usually a good mix of older managers, professionals in their early thirties and young graduates. Mark, aged 27, has a degree in Fine Art and is seeking art gallery or museum work. He has obtained some voluntary work with the Castle Museum in Nottingham, which could be a way around the Catch 22 he has encountered of "no experience, no job, and you can't get the experience without the job."

Jude, aged 22, is facing similar problems in her chosen field of journalism. A graduate in Modern European Studies, she has learned something of job hunting techniques on a Women Going Places course, also run by EMRMC, which helps women prepare for management.

She has just joined the club and has already acquired a new skill - reading between the lines of the recruitment ads to discover the experience, education and personal qualities required and how to gear an application accordingly.

Even a casual visitor must notice how important this group support is to what can otherwise be a lonely quest. As I looked around, one man, no doubt a respected member of his profession, was singing a medley from *South Pacific* ("Nothing Like a Dame" was one of his better efforts, though I wouldn't yet advise applying for a job on the stage).

An animated conversation was going on where a small group was offering advice to a man preparing for an interview, including "what perfume do you think he should wear?" Commonplace, you may think, in any working environment - but it's just the kind of chat that you miss when you are sitting on your own at home compiling a cv and gnashing your teeth over another rejection.

Anybody wanting to make their application stand out from the crowd should see *The Amazing Application of W. Read*, a booklet produced by a young economics graduate seeking a job in publishing. He has drawn a humorous cartoon on each page.

EMRMC is opening another Management Job Club in Derby and there are similar clubs of unemployed professionals in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Luton and North London.

Management Job Club, East Midlands Regional Management Centre, Eastgate House, 34 Sneyd Street, Nottingham NG1 1NB (0602-484162)

BANKING & ACCOUNTANCY



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Individuals will be expected to take early responsibility and show initiative in managing other staff within the practice. Self-motivation, technical awareness and an ability to work to deadlines are important criteria for those wishing to apply. (Previous U.K. and Irish ACA's/ACCA's have progressed extremely well in the practice.)

For further information please contact either Gary Johnson or Lee Stirrup on 01-836 9501 (24 hours) or contact your nearest Douglas Lambias Associates office.

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Financial Services Group

Senior Compliance Officer To £25,000 + Car

As a result of the Financial Services Act, all life and unit trust companies are now subject to the new regulatory regime. Our client, a well known financial services group with extensive interests in both life assurance and unit trusts, now seeks to recruit a senior compliance officer to join their legal department.

The senior compliance officer will be primarily responsible for monitoring the selling practices of the group's sales outlets and will also play an important role in other aspects of group compliance including the formulation of policy. The position will involve gaining a sound understanding of the SIB rules and both the LAUTRO and IMRO rules and the setting up of systems throughout

the group to ensure effective compliance. This is a high profile role which will include liaison with SRO's and working with the senior management of the authorised companies in the group.

Candidates may have either a legal or accounting background though formal qualification is not essential. Excellent communication skills both written and oral are however mandatory. If you are looking for a challenging high profile role within a progressive company contact Paul Wilson for further details on 01-404 5751. Alternatively write to him enclosing full curriculum vitae at:

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01 895 1515
Mellor House, 26a Albemarle Street, London W1X 3FA

20 Accountancy Personnel Placing Accountants First

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43 Brompton Road, Knightsbridge SW8 Tel: 01-851 5215

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This well-known film and record company with interests in the UK, Europe and the USA has an exciting and challenging vacancy for a recently qualified accountant with 1-2 years part-qualification experience. The role is a varied one and encompasses management accounts preparation, special projects, costing, and occasional travel to Europe (1 week per year), to name but a few. You should be dynamic, computer-literate and possess an interest in working for a medium-sized company. Prospects include promotion to Senior Management and benefits include bonus, profit share and BUPA. Ref: JW/P1.
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Trevor James Accountancy
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An attractive salary, pension scheme, private medical insurance and relocation assistance are all available for this excellent opportunity to further expand your skills and experience.

Anyone interested in the challenging opportunity should write, enclosing c.v. to:

Mrs J Barlock
Personnel Officer
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Gloucester House
399 Silbury Boulevard
Central Milton Keynes
(0908) 608833
for further information.

GRADUATES CAREERS IN TAXATION OR ACCOUNTANCY

Harrison Willis Ltd is a leading financial recruitment consultancy and we assist a number of our clients in the recruitment of graduates for training in Taxation or Chartered Accountancy.

We offer graduates free careers guidance and introductions to major, medium and small firms of Chartered Accountants in London and several regional centres.

Training includes paid tutorial costs and study leave towards the ATII (Institute of Taxation) or ACA (Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales) qualifications and broad practical experience.

Requirements vary according to individual firms, but graduates should expect a minimum of a second class degree (in any discipline) and have at least 9 UCCA points.

For further information contact DELIA SNAPE (Taxation) on 01-493 7786 (evenings 01-531 7796), TANIA FREEZER (Chartered Accountancy) on 01-629 4463. For vacancies in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Oxfordshire and Wiltshire please telephone MICHELLE SER on Reading (0734) 391003.

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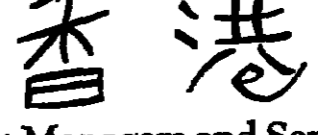
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A dynamic young London company with a wealth of exciting opportunities is seeking a graduate with knowledge of IT & business systems to join its IT department. You will enjoy a varied and challenging role which is an excellent start to your career.
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Please write with full c.v. to Barry Compton who will arrange interviews with a visiting partner during August.

Ernst & Whinney
Accountants, Advisers, Consultants
Becker House, 1 Lambeth Palace Rd, London SE1 7LL. Tel: 01-428 2000.

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01-481 4481

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Holborn c. £12,000 pa

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We offer the usual comprehensive range of benefits including BUPA, share option, contributory pension and sick pay schemes, interest free season ticket loan, excellent staff restaurant and 22 days holiday.

If you feel you have the qualities we seek, send full C.V. to:- Christine Ferguson, Recruitment Officer, Cable and Wireless PLC, Mercury House, Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8BX or phone 01-548 8034 (24 hours) for an application form.



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Experienced Secretary for Foreign Government Office in SW1. Fluent French/English, shorthand, typing and WP experience. Knowledge of Quebec Touristic Attractions. Salary between £115-£11,200 (negotiable).

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Currently one of his major responsibilities is preparing for the French equivalent of 'big bang' and you will find yourself involved in the fascinating world of high-profile deals both in this country and in Europe.

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Skills: 90/50 Age: 23-30
City Office
726-8491
ANGELA MORTIMER

DENTAL SECRETARY
To act as practice manager for busy dentist West End practice. Confident outgoing personality, good telephone manner and ability to work under pressure essential. Possession of audio typing, word processing, computers and medical or dentistry preferred. Age 25-35. £17,000 - £19,000. Telephone 01 267 3071 day or evening

John Ford & Co FULHAM
We urgently need capable person with fast accurate typing skills, (some shorthand) to run busy office. 25-35, non smoker, up to £14,000.
TEL: 381 8444

SECRETARY/PA

Sec to MD of dynamic, fast-growing European subsidiary of US Co which is the world's largest privately owned vendor of medical information systems.

You should have excellent organisational and secretarial skills (including WP), be able to assume responsibility for projects and procedures, be willing to work flexible hrs. You will be part of a fast-paced, young management team. European languages helpful. A sense of humour essential!

Package - £14k private health and non-contributory pension scheme.

Please contact:
Lianne Cuckow, TDS Limited,
Whitlock House, 6 Earls Court Rd,
London W8 6EA. Tel 938 3077

SECRETARY/PA

Required for lively Property Company based in W8. Interesting and varied work. Sh, typing. Good salary.

Please contact
Kate Hammond on
01 792 0371

PA/SECRETARY

Small friendly Blackheath advertising agency requires PA/Secretary to the Managing Director. Do you have accurate typing, are well organised and prepared to work hard and get involved in all aspects of running the company?

Please call Alan Wilson on
01-318 4411

PA/SECRETARY IN MAYFAIR

Not a giving job in September and an investor need a competent replacement with a good sense of management. You will be a small commercial office agency. Do an excellent office. Salary £10,000 but negotiable. Ring Nicola quickly on 01 439 8067 for an appointment

SHORTHAND/AUDIO SECRETARY

To hard working team of Commodity Traders. Good Bond Street location. Salary £12,500 with fringe benefits plus yearly review bonus. Please apply to Sue/Jackie on 01 935 4455 ext 4171

CHALLENGE & SCOPE WITH GERMAN

Salary Range: £5,000 - £14,000 plus benefits
Use your fluent German and good secretarial skills to full advantage in an exciting and challenging environment.
International Banking, Stockbroking, Consulting, Insurance, Law and Sales.
These are just a few of the many exciting fields in which there are opportunities now!
Many of these positions carry with them excellent benefits including mortgage schemes, bonus schemes, share options, health insurance, non-contributory pension schemes and social clubs.
Short-hand always a great advantage.

COUNTDOWN 1992

TEI-LINGUAL PA
ENGLISH/
FRENCH/ITALIAN
£14,000 + Benefits

A prestigious American firm in the City is looking for a PA to assist a young busy, Italian speaker in their Corporate Investment Department.
The successful applicant will already be an experienced secretary and French and Italian are a must. The ability to write in a professional and exciting atmosphere is essential. Knowledge is required in English and it is possible in one other language.
A superb opportunity.

SENR PA -ADMINISTRATOR

Are you an organiser and a decision maker? Then assist the senior Director of a leading international City company, enjoy a demanding, rewarding PA role where 70% of your time will be spent on administration involving some autonomy. If you have previous experience and WP skills, call now on 01 228 7243.

Mistprestige
EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

PROPERTY RESEARCH SEC

£12,000+ with benefits

A fantastic opportunity to utilise your excellent secretarial skills in property research and provide secretarial support to the head of department. Get totally involved with your own areas of responsibility with the support of offering good benefits. Call now on 01 228 7243.

Mistprestige
EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

FLUENT FRENCH HOUSLOW

£10,500 - 11,500

From Space Research to Gadget
Use your fluent French for 2 related positions in the blue-chip American company.

PA to Senior Vice-President (one-to-one but team work attitude). Lots of French speaking, excellent salary and high administration content.

Secretary to Corporate Lawyer (using your French especially) working closely across Europe and International Affairs. English and French essential. Excellent benefits. Call now on 01 228 7243.

Lower salary and busy environment.

01-491 7100

01-491 7100

01-491 7100

SECRETARY/PA Covent Garden

Our secretary/PA is moving on after 4 years with our expanding design consultancy.

We need a special replacement to assist the two charming partners, especially as we are moving to larger offices in Covent Garden.

Are you the intelligent, well-spoken person with excellent typing and an ability to liaise with clients, that we need? Some experience with design, advertising or related industries would be an advantage - a sense of humour is essential. Salary negotiable.

Please send C.V. to:
Lynda Myers, ONE TO ONE
Design for Marketing
1 New's Yard, Covent Garden
London WC2E 9JF

No Telephone Calls Please

BERMUDA

US \$23,000 neg. Tax Free

Are you free to seize this great opportunity to spend 2 years working on the beautiful island of Bermuda? Our client requires a good all round PA Sec. with SH/WP skills who enjoys involvement and responsibility.

If you are seriously interested then phone
Martin 323 0885

ACTION SECRETARIES plc
146, OXFORD STREET W1

SECRETARY TO MD

Experienced non-smoking, articulate and presentable secretary for busy MD based initially in Putney, relocating in New Year to Parsons Green. Excellent salary for the right person. C.V. to:

Paul Maryan, Managing Director,
Chayne Motors,
201-203 Upper Richmond Road,
Putney, London SW15.
Tel: 01-788 4314

Sec/PA £14,000

Experienced Secretary for a busy international company. Excellent salary and benefits. Call now on 01 228 7243.

GALE ASSOCS
01-379 8344 Ext 200

PA - c.15k

Plus Mortgage Subsidy, O/T & Excellent Benefits

To high flying Head of Sales, City Generalist in SW15. Salary and sense of humour required. Non-smoker.

WORD ASSOCIATES
01-377 8433

PERSONNEL SECRETARY

c.14k

To handle communication & benefits for busy company in City based on Age 25-35. Non-smoker. Some SH necessary. Excellent fringe benefits.

WORD ASSOCIATES
01-377 8433

RECEPTIONIST £12,500

Exciting new 40pm typing skills for high calibre company in W1 West-end

Call 01 580 5522,
MISS RECEPTION
Rec Cons

Secretary/PA

To Lady. Must be able to work on own initiative. Good telephone manner essential. Flexible attitude to hours worked. 4 weeks holiday. Salary £13,000.

Please contact
Mrs Hyland on
01-631 3033

Mayfair

Property Consultants require senior secretary for two Partners, to work in new prestige offices. WP essential. £12,000 pa.

Please contact
Mrs Hyland on
01-631 3033

SUPER SECRETARIES

CHELSEA - PA to Chairman. Dynamic environment. Must have excellent skills. 110/60/WP. Salary £14,000. Age 25-35. Call on 01 437 1864 Rec Cons.

COLLEGE - Leaver in Recruitment. 18+. Some reception, secretarial, typing and office work. Good salary. £12,000. Covent Garden. Tel: 01-365 7696

COLLEGE - Leaver Sec to 29,500 Super Management Consultants. Excellent benefits. Good salary. £12,000. Covent Garden. Tel: 01-365 7696

DUTCH - Spkg sec. Experienced. Good typing with WP skills for European banker. £12,000. Polystyrene Agency 01 247 5242

AMBROSIOUS? The Chairman of this international company needs an assistant with the flair, capability of taking charge and being able to handle a busy office. Salary £14,000. 524. Please send CV, photograph & letter of application to: Mrs Hyland, 125 Ave. Tel: 01-796 9887.

BILINGUAL Secretary - French/English is urgently required by a busy international company. Good salary. £12,000. Tel: 01-365 7696

FULHAM - £12,000 bright, cheerful person with fast, accurate typing and WP skills is needed. References essential. Salary minimum £10,000. Please send CV, photograph & letter of application to: Mrs Hyland, 125 Ave. Tel: 01-796 9887.

MARLEY STREET - Secretary

Experienced Secretary with excellent class and typing skills needed to do our letters in 25 minutes a week. Reply to BOX 145

ITALIAN Bilingual Sec to run W. London office, attend clients, liaise with customers in Italy. Trip to Italy for training on computer system (4 weeks typing). Very responsible & interesting job. £12,000. Little Language Assn. 01 408 2150.

ITALIAN A level English SH for Publishing. £9,000. Language Staff. 01 408 9292.

AJUR - Sec. Design Group. £23,000. Wonderful opportunity for bright young lady to progress with famous Co. Excellent benefits. £12,000. Covent Garden. Tel: 01-365 7696

PERSONNEL - Int. Marketing Co. in W1 require top PA, international experience. £14,000. Please call Barbara, Linda or Maryanne at B.J. Crawford (Rec Cons) on 01-936 9692

PERSONNEL - Opportunity with World famous Publishing Group for early 20's Sec who'll help arrange interviews, book hotels, etc. £12,000 - £13,000 package with £11,000 basic. Covent Garden Bureau 01-439 1844

PORTFOLIO - Assistant, Senior level. American Investment Co. based in Mayfair. Excellent benefits. £12,000. Covent Garden. Tel: 01-365 7696

PUBLISHING - Careers - Only the best! The best! Call now on 01-228 7243

SECRETARY - Opportunity with World famous Publishing Group for early 20's Sec who'll help arrange interviews, book hotels, etc. £12,000 - £13,000 package with £11,000 basic. Covent Garden Bureau 01-439 1844

SECRETARY - French/English/Spanish required by company. Good secretarial skills. WP essential. Apply by writing with CV to Prestige Inc. 100, Park St, London W1Y.

SPANISH & Portuguese - PA to Senior Manager. Start-up division dealing with Third World Development in Wolverhampton. City based. A secretarial position with great prospects. Lots of direct contact and eventual supervision of staff. Excellent salary and high language proficiency essential. Could suit second jobber with ambition and the talent to help build the team. £12,000 + banking perks. Telephone: International Secretaries 01-491 7100.

SEC/PA for established one-man US Import/Export - good start-up hand typing and international skills. Tel: 01-484 0815.

CHARMERS - PA. £12,000. W1. Desirable post. 1st class Sec with skills (O/A/O). 18 hrs/week. Must be confident and computer literate. Call Helen on 01-629 4256. Rec Cons

SECRETARY - Spanish/German/Italian. Recent graduate with excellent knowledge of 3 European languages for operations dept. based in busy international company. West London. Salary £10,000. Call Barbara on 01-228 7243. Rec Cons

LEGAL LA CREME

Keystone

LEGAL SECS
NO
SHORTHAND

£12,000 @ 19yrs
£14,000 @ 22yrs

Our clients who are a very progressive and expanding company. With offices in the West End and City will pay the above for experience and well-presented people.

Audio and typing/wp skills must be of a very high standard

Plus all the normal fringe benefits.

Please call
Keystone
Recruitment
on 278-4141
or 278-2555

TEMPING TIMES

FW GAPP

HELP!

We urgently require a Receptionist for our busy W1 Estate Office. Some typing skills required. WP training given. Ideal opportunity for a well spoken and professional person to join our team.

FW GAPP 01 263 6084

The Property Managers
01 243 0964

SECRETARY - Monday, WP and the people look no further for their company. £12,000. Covent Garden Bureau 01-439 1844

SECRETARY - Spanish/German/Italian. Recent graduate with excellent knowledge of 3 European languages for operations dept. based in busy international company. West London. Salary £10,000. Call Barbara on 01-228 7243. Rec Cons

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Foster continues to master man and course at Birkdale

Trevor Foster, who enjoyed a brief moment of glory in the Open Championship recently, claimed a famous scalp in the English amateur championship at Royal Birkdale yesterday. He beat Peter McEvoy, twice the British amateur champion, by 2 and 1.

ROYAL BIRKDALE RESULTS

Final round: D Curry (Preston) 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

By John Hennessy at Royal Lytham and St Annes. It could not last, of course, but his performance at Birkdale so far this week, using clubs of a different manufacturer suggests that he is quite capable of making a name for himself in amateur golf even at the comparatively advanced age of 28. He was, after all, one of only six amateurs who qualified for the Open, finishing second at Blackpool North Shore. In that competition he broke the amateur course record with a 67 on the first day.

Foster went ahead at the long six with a birdie four, chipping to five feet, a setback which McEvoy was never able to retrieve. He said later: "I made some silly mistakes. I holed some good putts, but not when it mattered."

He did make one huge putt, all of 40 feet, for a birdie three at the 458-yard eighth, but it was still not enough to win the hole, since Foster had hit his second to 10 feet and followed McEvoy in.

The ninth (414 yards), undistinguished as it was, put Foster two ahead. Both took three putts but McEvoy, having driven into a bunker, took the hole to a five. McEvoy got one back at the 10th, the only hole he was to win, where a par four eluded his opponent. Foster drove into the trees and recovered well enough to get within five feet, but that putt, too, eluded him.

Perhaps the final hammerstroke came at the 13th, where a birdie four still took the hole. Foster followed a superb tee shot with a seven-iron to finish within seven or eight inches. McEvoy could not match Foster's par five at the 16th and now had to win three holes in a row to survive.



Temporary hitch: Ballesteros blasts his way out of a bunker on the way to his fourth and third second round win.

Rest of the World battle to contain 'King' of Australia

From Peter Ward Sydney

Australia 22 Rest of the World 10

The Australian Rugby League, whose promotional activity would make the doomsday look hyperactive, found themselves with a better occasion than they expected.

Despite the silent fanfare, 15,301 supporters turned out for the first time at the Sydney stadium, and were treated to a game that, unlike many concocted occasions in the past, had some bite to it, especially in a first half that saw the Rest of the World in the lead at the end of 20 minutes and still well in contention at the interval with the score 12-10 against them.

Under-19 champion, and for a record fourth time, British open under-19 champion. He is ranked No 1 in England and No 20 in the world.

Yesterdays Harris signed a three-year £60,000 contract with Slazkenz, which is the biggest squash sponsorship in the 100-year history of the British sports goods company.

It is the most difficult time for Delia Barrington first because she is only 19, but she is also the youngest player in the national coaching squad system which she started 10 years ago.

Other notable news complete with clubs, include the former Masters' champion, Craig Stadler, the defending champion, Gordon Brand, the junior version, and British Amateur champion, Christian Hardin.

Harris sets off on quest for the top

By Colin McQuillan

Joseph Barrington, the most successful squash player produced by Britain, returned yesterday to old haunts at the Lansdowne Club in London's Mayfair to launch Delia Harris, the teenage national champion, upon a season vital to hopes that Barrington's successor has finally appeared.

Barrington was the British open champion six times during his reign as world No. 1, the first of these titles coming in 1966 against Aftab Javid at the famous old Bruce court at the Lansdowne. No British player since Barrington has gone further than the British open semi-final.

"This is the most difficult time for Delia Barrington first because she is only 19, but she is also the youngest player in the national coaching squad system which she started 10 years ago.

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A grubby way of deceiving

By Conrad Voss Bark

In that admirable book, *Salar the Salmon*, which has been described by the salmon as indifferent to an artificial fly, a Jock Scott that was hooked on quite a small rather grubby sort of fly when he was young.

Williamson was not the only writer to point out that salmon were sometimes indifferent to brightly coloured flies. Very often we use these in spite of the fact that the water is coloured in the belief that smaller flies will not be seen by the fish.

The big fly is no doubt the only thing to use in the heavy water of big Scottish rivers in spring and autumn but that is an exception and some would say, rather like feathered spinning, it is a last resort.

On the river bank the other day we came to the conclusion that salmon flies can be put into the same categories as trout flies. He said there were two types, attractors and deceivers and the attractors stimulated the predator instinct while the deceivers suggested food of some kind.

They follow the fortune waltz of Tom Genoa's Continental's Proud Bird, which gave up her record attempt in much the same area 24 hours earlier, also defeated by the weather and sea conditions.

The Italian decision was taken at 1 a.m. yesterday, but kept secret until 5 a.m. It reports of her positions existing from the Genoa control centre are to be believed, Azimut Challenger had averaged 29.9 knots for the 53 hours 39 minutes she had been running - well below the 37.5 knot target required to beat Branson's record.

The USA statement, issued late on Tuesday night, said that six players would be banned from all competitions for their part in the tour. The ban is to last 18 months, and the players have been fined £200 each, which will go towards the cost of the inquiry, but no names were issued, pending appeals by other players also subject to disciplinary action.

YACHTING TALLIN Soviet Union: Tommaso world championship fourth race: 1. R White (GB) 2. J. J. White (GB) 3. J. J. White (GB) 4. J. J. White (GB) 5. J. J. White (GB) 6. J. J. White (GB) 7. J. J. White (GB) 8. J. J. White (GB) 9. J. J. White (GB) 10. J. J. White (GB) 11. J. J. White (GB) 12. J. J. White (GB) 13. J. J. White (GB) 14. J. J. White (GB) 15. J. J. White (GB) 16. J. J. White (GB) 17. J. J. White (GB) 18. J. J. White (GB) 19. J. J. White (GB) 20. J. J. White (GB) 21. J. J. White (GB) 22. J. J. White (GB) 23. J. J. White (GB) 24. J. J. White (GB) 25. J. J. White (GB) 26. J. J. White (GB) 27. J. J. White (GB) 28. J. J. White (GB) 29. J. J. White (GB) 30. J. J. White (GB) 31. J. J. White (GB) 32. J. J. White (GB) 33. J. J. White (GB) 34. J. J. White (GB) 35. J. J. White (GB) 36. J. J. White (GB) 37. J. J. White (GB) 38. J. J. White (GB) 39. J. J. White (GB) 40. J. J. White (GB) 41. J. J. White (GB) 42. J. J. White (GB) 43. J. J. White (GB) 44. J. J. White (GB) 45. J. J. 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